The Man Picked up by the Gods

Volume 1

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Prologue

A lone man was standing alone in an empty space.

“Hmm…? Where is this place?” whispered the man.

As he uttered those words, three beings suddenly appeared before him.

“You’ve come to?” [Young Boy]

“Are you fully awake now?” [Old Man]

“I would be grateful if you could respond” [Woman]

“Ah… Yes I’m alright. I was just startled for a bit by your sudden appearance… and wasn’t able to respond. I am Takebayashi Ryouma.” *(Note: name means Bamboo Forest Dragon Horse)*

“No need to be so stiff. Come let us drink tea while skipping the formalities.”

Responded the old man with long hair after hearing Ryouma’s response. The old man waved his hand and out came a tea table along with some tea.

“Thank you very much” said Ryouma.

As Ryouma gave his thanks one of the three beings, a woman, faced him and as she cheerfully laughed said this.

“Come… sit, sit. Honestly though, you sure are pretty calm huh?”

“True, true. So far everyone that has come here was so shocked that they tried to run away from reality… For a guy to come here so completely unfazed to the point of being able to calmly hold a conversation, this is without a doubt the first.” [Young Boy]

“What? Isn’t being able to talk quickly a good thing? Though it’s true even I didn’t think it would be to this degree.” [Old Man]

Said the three beings as they drank tea. Ryouma took a sip of his tea and asked.

“If I may ask just one question, where is this place?”

“We are, in the language of your world, gods. As for why you are here,

well… unfortunately last night while you were sleeping you stopped breathing. When you died, we took your soul and brought you here. In other words, you are in heaven.” [Old Man God]

“Oh… I see. It was something like that.”

Replied Ryouma as he nodded seemingly understanding, after which he took another sip of his tea. Hearing that response, the three main gods were bewildered. Especially the god that had the appearance of a Young Boy.

“”Eh, wai-, that’s it!?” [Young Boy God]

“Couldn’t you be more like, that’s a lie! Or why did I die?! Or something?” [Female God]

“Hmm… all the people that have come here so far where all a bit more shaken you know? And it doesn’t seem like you think this is a dream, rather, you are taking this really calmly. This is cheating!”*(TL Note: Line originally says‘Reincarnation cheat!’)*

“Truly unusual…” [Old Man God]

“Please don’t be mistaken, as a matter of fact I am actually very much surprised. It’s just that as far as I know a vast place like this where everything is white and has no exit, does not exist in my world. That’s why for the three people in front of me to all be gods and the fact that I have already died has become something that I can accept.

But even if, perhaps, you were lying and this is in fact a dream, then when the time comes I will simply wake up.

As such, there isn’t any reason for me to particularly make a fuss, right? In the case that I’ve already truly died, even if I make a fuss now nothing will change. And besides it’s not like I have any attachments to my previous life.” [Young Boy God]

“Oh really? Humans could actually think like this? Did you undergo spiritual training somewhere? Have you actually reached enlightenment?” [Young Boy God]

“That’s not possible… For one I am a worldly man. Almost 40 years old yet my hobbies still include anime, games, manga, and light novels. I’ve never gone out with a girl, but I am definitely not the kind of person that could ever reach enlightenment. It’s possible that I’ve been influenced a tad too much by my hobbies. And for the record I am more or less surprised you know? “ [Ryouma]

“I don’t believe it has anything to do with your hobbies. There are many

people that have the same hobbies as you that have come before, and rather than being calm they were especially agitated. It was quite a problem because they wouldn't even listen… it's not to the point where it was depressing but they were certainly affected far more than other people." [Female God]

"Your calm temperate is most likely something you've had with you since birth. You, excluding special situations and your social disposition, are bad with sudden responses…but basically you are always calm, right?" [Old Man God]

"Aah, now that you mention it, that's about right. I am horrible at dealing with people and am bad at quick lies.

The only thing exceptional about me is my ability to always remain calm to understand whatever situation I'm in.

As expected of god." [Young Boy God]

"Actually I already took a look at your file before calling you here." [Old Man God]

"Is that so? I see, then, would it be ok for me to know the reason regarding why I was called here?" [Young Boy God]

"Of course, but I wonder if you will be able to understand it in one word? 'Cliche'." [Old Man God]

"I see, going into a different world, right? Will I simply be transferred? Or since I'm already dead, reincarnated?" [Young Boy God]

"Looks like the explanation will really be quick, huh?" [Female God]

"More or less it's transfer. You will be going into a different world and into a body we made so there won't be any need for parents or the like." [Old Man God]

"Well the body over there will be quite young so you might be able to call it reincarnation. Also if you have any requests for the appearance we have some luxury to modify it a bit." [Young Boy God]

"I see… May I know exactly how much?" [Ryouma]

"In general before 10 years old, if it's like that then at least even if you get lost in places like the forest, if your luck is good then there is a possibility of being saved. Also as a kid you'll be able to live without being suspected and will be able to go the city and start your life there. Of course, we'll protect you as much as possible." [Old Man God]

"Thank you very much. Regarding my appearance in the other world,

please make it normal. By the way, what should I do in the world I'm about to go to. Is there a mission I have to fulfill or something?" [Ryouma]

"It's not that there's none but… the act of you going into another world is already a form of mission… but the moment you are able to go there then that duty ends so at the same time it's like you don't really have any missions." [Female God]

"Our objective is to send you to another world and at the same, start exhausting the mana of Earth and then send it to the other world." [Young Boy God]

"Is it only mana that can't be sent to other world?" [Young Boy God]

"Yep, because it's only mana which can't go over the walls of the world. With the power of a god a thin hole can be opened on the walls of the world. Your soul, protected by the power of god, will be pushed inside the wall.

Like this your soul will become like a stuck stick. After transferring your soul to the other world, the hole will stay open for a moment, since the wall can't close up because of the power of god that is protecting the soul. And then from the hole that was made the mana of this world will flow to the other world." [Young Boy God]

"The other's world mana is growing. If the mana dries up then the humans who have been living a lifestyle that relies on magic will of course, be troubled. The magical beasts that feed on mana will be annihilated. The food chain that is balanced around the existence of the magical beasts will also be broken. The thing is although Earth has mana, the method of using it wasn't passed down and as a result it's not being used at all. There's also no magical beasts on earth, so since no one will be bothered it's better to send it to the other world." [Female God]

"I understand… especially the fact that if the mana isn't purposely being exhausted by something then the other world's mana must be being used up faster than it can be produced, am I correct?" [Ryouma]

"It is exactly as you have said. It's true that mana is convenient but the current human race relies on magic too much. Whenever they need something done they, without stopping to think, immediately use magic. And although various research has been done on the development… the number of people that use magic without trying to manage or economize have been increasing. As a result the amount consumed has increased… But, while that's true, the biggest reason behind the mana problem is still the old war which naturally ruined the amount of mana produced." [Young Boy God]

“For it to go back to the way it was before will take time. But the way it was ruined was too severe and wasn’t able to be restored completely. And then in order for humans to manage mana usage requires good training. Otherwise it won’t be possible to easily use good magic. That’s why there is generally no demand for people that are able to conserve mana. It’s unfortunate but this is the current state of the world.” [Old Man God]

“That… um… magic, can I also use it?”

“Of course, you can.” [Old Man God]

“You can.” [Young Boy God]

“You can use it, you know.” [Female God]

“Really?” [Ryouma]

“Oh, finally a normal reaction! Ahem, excuse me that was rude.” [Young Boy God]

“Well then, in regards to magic. The body in the other world will also be human and whether or not you will be able to use magic will depend on your training.” [Old Man God]

“That is reliant on your talent, but as an earthling, especially a Japanese the material should be pretty good as you have an advantage. When it comes to magic, the most important thing is image. Even with only that you should be able to do quite a bit… that ability to easily handle magic’s greatest cause is because of the influence of the magic exhaustion.” [Female God]

“And besides once you’ve crossed over to the other world, you will be protected by the power of god so at that time we will give you some of ability. In other words, a cheat. So even if you have no talent we will raise up your level to some extent so as to allow you use to magic, and you will be able to use magic as you wish. But being the number one talent in magic in the world is a bit difficult though.” [Female God]

“Is that some sort of limit? At the start, where I am unable to do anything and then after piling up some training eventually I will be able to use magic. Is it that kind of pattern? But even then more than normal it will be possible to become number one in the world quickly, right?” [Ryouma]

“You’re really quick to pick up, huh? That’s exactly correct. Japanese people are quite amazing. Although the number of people who think they are only in a work of fiction and seriously believe are few, to understand the work of god. Things like reading books for fun is as to us peeping at the world. Isn’t us having fun by peeping at the world the same as you guys? Japanese, aren’t we doing the same thing?” [Young Boy God]

“Being told that, certainly… though I have to ask, do you really peep?” [Ryouma]

“Yeah, because since we’re basically not able to involve ourselves with the world we’re quite free.” [Young Boy God]

“We only involve ourselves when a great calamity has descend and the world is about to be destroyed or at the moment when great harm comes, or when someone tries to destroy the world and that person happened to have that kind of power. Well the things I’ve told you are mostly unnecessary. The last time we were involved was in the world’s time period… about 300 years ago?” [Young Boy God]

“Yeah, I think that’s about right. That time was also the same as this time. It was for the sake of supplement the exhausted mana. The last time we were involved with anything other than that reason was 5000 years… or was 6000 years ago I wonder? Well in any case I think there should be at least one such case that we handled within these past 10000 years.” [Female God]

“…at the very least the possibility of something like that happening within my life is quite low, right?” [Young Boy God]

“While I won’t say anything in regards to that but, it’s probably ok. Such a case is quite rare after all. A fake Maou claiming to be one may come out but the suppression of the real maou won’t be a big deal. Because in the instance that a real one were to come out we will end it quickly.” [Female God]

“So it’s not like there isn’t a real one… but in any case it’ll be fine right?” [Young Boy God]

“Exactly, that’s why you can relax and just enjoy your second life. You fancy a world with swords and magic, right? Well it’s that kind of story.” [Old Man God]

“To think that I really will be able to go… I’ve never even thought about it. When I go into the other world I’ll work hard at my magic.” [Ryouma]

“Well then, it’s about time we began talking about that special favor. First off, let’s take a look at the current state of your talent. Then let’s discuss after seeing what’s lacking.” [Female God]

“After seeing your status, we’ll give you our advice, match it with what you want and then we’ll decide on what to do. It’s good if take our time ok!” [Young Boy God]

“Is that ok?” [Young Boy God]

“Its fine, we’re free anyway and it’s because the world has some free mana that we came to take you away. Also because you were really calm we were able to talk quickly, giving us significantly more time than we expected.

This world’s sense of time has become quite vague you know. Especially the souls of humans seem to be unused to this environment. For them the time used was greater than they thought. To begin with from the moment they woke up until the moment we finally began able to talk calmly took us 4 years.” [Female God]

“4 Years!?” [Young Boy God]

“Aah, but you’re ok. We were able to talk fairly quick after all, normally including some idle chatter it would take no more than 10 minutes. But actually it will be better take up some more time otherwise it will be boring. So let’s take our time and talk, ok?” [Female God]

“Understood. However is it normal to keep being confused for 4 years?” [Young Boy God]

“Well in here you can’t get hungry or thirsty so… when you think about it you can worry all you want.” [Old Man God]

“Will the person himself regain his sanity? The point in time at which we make the person calm down also depends on us. The man before you was actually quite arrogant. He wouldn’t calm down for 20 years, somehow, one way or another we were able to make him calm down and after that he was like until I decide my ability shut up! Or you bastards it’s enough as long as you give me the ability I want! After what he said without being able to give him advice he worried until the very end, and in the end he went with an ability that wasn’t very useful, then up and decided to use a dangerous appearance that will become like the object of persecution.” [Young Boy God]

“Although he reaped what he sowed, after that it was really pitiful. He ran away from reality and wouldn’t listen.

To some extent we let him turn that way you know? Even if we tried to poorly calm him down, he being wary of us is a hassle. Doing that by that time we realized it 4 years had already passed. Not just his soul but even his emotions were running reckless.” [Female God]

“Is that so?” [Young Boy God]

“Well originally the body and the soul is a set. Even if it is preserved by the power of god, in the first place it’s unstable. It’s that influence. It’s not something to be surprised about. For me, you being so calm is a

bigger surprise, you know?” [Female god]

“I see…” [Young Boy God]

“That clear headedness of yours is really beneficial for a magician. If the spirit is unstable the magic will fail and even if it succeeds the power will be weak. For a Japanese who likes games and anime to have that kind of tranquility… if on top of that you were to have talent in magic then you will have plenty of factors to help you succeed as a magician.” [Young Boy God]

“Exactly, now let’s hurry up and check your status. Otherwise we won’t be able to begin.” [Female god]

“Right, without confirming that you do not have the talent to use magic, we won’t be able to decide what ability to give you.” [Old Man God]

“Even though you have talent in magic, it can’t be helped even if I were to give you talent for the same kind of magic. Well then, your status is!?” [Young Boy God]

“fufufu, from the contents of your documents that I’ve read, you have the highest hidden potential you know?” [Old Man God]

“Ara ara, how exciting.” [Female god]

“Everyone’s really having fun, huh?” [Young Boy God]

“It’s because this is one of our few pleasures. Well then let’s go! Status!” [Old Man God]

Name	Ryouma Takuma	Age	39 Years Old
Race	Human		
Physical Strength	10486	Magic Power	172
Power	B	Speed	A
Defense	B	Spirit	SSS
Endurance	A	Handiness	SSS

Luck	G		
Living Skills			
Housework Lv10	Etiquette Lv7	Musical Instrument Lv3	Singing Lv3
Calculation Lv5			
Battle Skills			
Taijutsu Lv7	Kenjutsu Lv7	Short Sword Arts Lv6	Hidden Weapon Arts Lv7
Spear Arts Lv4	Bow Arts Lv4	Staff Arts Lv6	Counterweight arts Lv4
Throwing Arts Lv7	Covert Arts Lv6	Trap Lv4	Body Manipulation Lv5
Kikou Lv5			
Magic Skills			
Magic Perception Lv1	Magic Manipulation Lv 1	Magic Recovery Rate Up Lv1	
Production Skills			
Pharmacy Lv6	Smithing Lv1	Architecture Lv2	Woodworking Lv2
Modeling Lv4	Drawing Lv4		

Resistance Skills			
Physical Pain Resistance Lv8	Mental Resistance Lv9	Poison resist Lv7	Disease resist Lv7
Sleep resist Lv7	Cold resist Lv7	Heat resist Lv7	
Special Skills			
Stronger Vitality Lv3	Super Healing Lv3	Endurance Lv6	Focus Spirit Lv5
Survival Lv5			
Titles			
Gekokujou, The Man Who Lost His Life to Bad Luck			

Before the eyes of the four people appeared a board, on that board some characters appeared on the screen.

Looking at that, it can be seen that Ryouma is very interesting, but the 3 main gods opened their eyes wide in shock.

“Wh– what is this!!” [Old Man God]

“What’s with this status!” [Young Boy God]

“Ryouma-kun, how did you live your life again!?” [Female God]

“Eh, is there something weird?” [Young Boy God]

“It’s weird! Too weird!”

“Exactly where is it weird? I don’t have anything to base it on so…” [Young Boy God]

“Right, then let me give you a quick run down. First, this status, physical strength is generally for a normal person 1000 can be considered to be good, for an adventurer 2000, and beyond that 3000, yet yours is over 10000. As for magic, I’ll explain that later. It’s also related to your skill. Next is right below that which is your power, speed, defense, resistance,

spirit, handiness, well the luck is… besides luck, in general when you reach B rank you can be a first class adventurer. A status beyond the rank of A rank can be considered to be a super first class. But as for your stats, besides luck everything is B rank up. Plus you have two stats that go beyond A rank, even more your spirit and handiness which are SSS and SS respectively are already too abnormal! [Old Man God]

"Regarding your luck, while it isn't something that has a criterion to rank on, G is definitely way too low. In that sense this too is abnormal, or rather, you did well living up to 39 years old. That too is an unusual level, since with this level of luck it wouldn't be strange for you to die as a child in an accident. Even if you do become an adult you won't be able to make much of a living" [Young Boy God]

"And also, what's up with this number of skills? Under Martial Arts Skills you have 10, but actually this is still barely acceptable but the problem is this, your resistant class skills are 7, moreover all of them are at an absurd level. You see, resistant class skills can't be trained except for consistently affecting your body with those. With pain resistance the requirement is to continuously expose your body to pain and endure. For mental resistance you need to continuously receive mental blows. If it was only level 1 it wouldn't be too strange but, but level 8 and 9 are too strange. Level 5 is already a level which regardless of how strong a person's heart maybe will surely cause mental illness. If it's 8 and 9 it's a level at the point of which one's heart breaking and the person committing suicide is an obvious fact" [Female God]

"… For normal people there are a lot that have a skill level from 1 to 3. If it's level 1 then that's at the level where they have studied the foundations of a field. If 2 then they have passed the beginner stage and have reached the apprentice stage, at level 3 one can be considered to be fully capable, at 4 skilled, at level 5, a first class, and at 6, a master. In the same way you train Resist Class Skills, the higher the level the greater the pain you have to endure for an extended period of time. That's why, you, who has reached abnormal levels like 7, 8 and 9 is weird. I wonder what kind of life you had to have been living in order to end up like this." [Old Man God]

Hearing that, Ryouma began his story little by little.

"In regards to Resist Class Skills do you have any leads?"

"Can you try recollecting the events in your mind for a bit?"

"Recollecting in my mind? Ok, I understand."

Having said that the 3 gods closed their eyes for a while. During that period Ryouma recollected the events in his past life that may be the

reason for his abnormal levels. After a while the three old gods lowered their heads and said one word.

“Ryouma-kun, Sorry!”

“Eh!? Why all the sudden!?”

“We made you remember some painful memories” [Young Boy God]

“We had you read your memories for us because it’s easier that way” [Female God]

“My memories? You mean it’s not just the same as thinking?” [Ryouma]

“Well it’s similar but… you watch videos right? Well, while it’s a bit questionable in regards to privacy but I wanted to know the exact details” [Old Man God]

“I am also just your everyday god, and there were a bunch of things I wanted to see but, seeing your memories you actually made me pull back… to make a god pullback that’s really amazing” [Young Boy God]

“Ryouma-kun, please live as you wish in the other world! The skills you possess are without a doubt a result of your guts and effort! So without holding back please make use of it!” [Female God]

“Ah, ah…”

“Also don’t forget our power. Because that too will help you out” [Old Man God]

Prologue 2

“Then, let’s decide what power to give to Ryouma-kun!”

“Alright, well first of all I don’t think Ryouma will need Martial Class related abilities anymore, so as planned let’s give him a Magic Class Ability… or so I would say but it seems Ryouma-kun also has quite some talent in magic.”

“Is that true!?”

“Yep, it’s true.”

“Um… the skills I have only include Magic Detection, Manipulation and Magic Recovery Rate UP. And my

Magical Strength is only 172. Even with only this, could I really have talent?”

“Well the other world aside, for an earthling those stats are abnormal. Actually I wasn’t able to tell you but since magic has long been forgotten on Earth, the magical power being 0 is supposedly a given. Normally there

shouldn’t even be a single person on Earth that has Magic Class Skills.”

“Is that so?” -

“It is. Although there are at least people that have a strong sixth sense and after continuously training, able to receive the Magic Detection ability. However, people that can manipulate magic do not exist. And even in the other world, people who possess the skill, Magic Recovery Rate UP, are ridiculously rare, it’s a rare skill you know? For an Earthling to possess such skills, that’s just too amazing… Oh, I got it! Ryouma-kun! How about I give you the skill, All Attribute Aptitude?”

“Oh, that’s a good idea!”

“Right, that’s probably for the best.”

“Um… I‘m not sure but I feel like this is some sort of super cheat skill, huh?”

Hearing Ryouma’s words, the three gods laughed while broadly grinning.

“Everyone that comes here says that.”

“Indeed, All Ability Aptitude, it’s definitely border line cheating.”

“Right it’s that kind of thinking that many people refused to choose this ability. But you know, the truth is in the other world All Attribute Aptitude isn’t that rare. It isn’t something to make such a big fuss out of.”

“Really?”

“Umu, there are people who were born with such abilities, and if you think about it as long as anyone trains, then anyone can gain All Attribute Aptitude. If you take a look at a country’s battalion of knights, you will find that there are at least around 10 to 20 people born with the ability. Furthermore, even though the number of attributes that someone with All Attribute Aptitude can use is quite big… But because of that if you train those attributes equally then the development of attribute will be slow. Say there were two magicians, one has many different attribute magic but all of them are weak, but the other can only use one powerful magic. In this case the one who will be more highly valued is the latter.”

“In other words a jack of all trades but a master of none. “

“Indeed.”

“That being the case, it’s not really that amazing… so how about it?”

“Right. Let’s go with All Attribute Aptitude then.”

“I understand, Ok. Then you’ll able to use the lower attributes, fire, water, wind, earth and neutral. You will also be able to use the middle class attributes, electricity, ice, poison, and wood. As well as the higher class attributes, light, darkness, and space. Is there any other ability you want? We still have quite a bit of room.”

“Can you increase the foundations of my magic?”

“Well it’s possible but, considering the fact that you are an Earthling who was supposed to have 0 Magical Strength, if we were to increase that even more you will most likely end up becoming an existence that is no longer human. The norm in the other world is 100 Magical Strength for a normal person, a warrior that also uses magic is around 500 to 700, a normal magician ranges from 1000 to 5000, and a royal court magic practitioner ranges from 10000 to 50000. And then for the people that we have sent into the other world with the body we made, the lowest was 10000. But that still doesn’t include the fact that, that number will still increase depending on the talent and training.”

“In your case, it will definitely increase, and not a meagre amount either.”

“Really?”

“Yes, I believe so. 0 is 0 right? No matter what you multiply it by, it should remain 0. This and that is the same thing. Earthlings are generally supposed to have 0 magical strength. While the possibility isn’t 0, other than you we have only seen one other earthling that has gained magical strength. But even then, it was only 1 magical strength. “

“There is a big wall that one needs to overcome in order to go from a 0 to a 1. But in your case not only have you surpassed that wall, but you have even increased your magical strength. According to nature this should be impossible.”

“Well if it’s not possible to increase my magic’s foundation, then I want some magic that will help me not die once I get there. In particular I want, defensive and healing spells.”

“Oh right, I forgot about healing spells! Good, good, let’s go with this. In regards to defense all the attributes have various method of defending… it’s a bit minor but how about, Barrier Magic?”

“Barrier! Of course!”

“Alright, good. But again we still have a lot of room left”

“Really?”

“Umu, it’s because your soul is really strong. Since the vessel that will accept our power is quite big, how about a special kind of magic?”

“What do you mean by special?”

“Boost Magic and Alchemy, Summoning Arts, and Slave Magic”

“I can somehow imagine Boost Magic, Alchemy, and Summoning Arts, but what is Slave Magic?”

“It’s an ability that allows you to make a contract with beasts that you’ve caught. I guess you could also call it taming. While it can be strong depending on the beasts you’ve caught, finding them a place to live in may be a bit difficult. I would suggest going with summoning rather than this, since you can just summon them when needed and when not you can unsummon them.”

“Well that’s also fine, but isn’t it a bit half baked? Isn’t there a different way to use Slave Magic?”

“Hmm…”

“Isn’t it possible to use Space Magic in exchange for summoning for use with the Slave Magic?”

“Eh?”

“What I mean is using Slave Magic to catch the beasts, then using space magic to summon or unsummon the

beasts. Like this space magic can be used to create a place that would act like a store house for the beasts, allowing me to summon and unsummon as if I was using Summoning Arts.”

After Ryouma said this, the three gods huddled together and began talking amongst themselves. After a few minutes…

“Ryouma-kun, that proposal just now is possible but, there’s a bit of a problem”

“What is it?”

“It’s fine for small magical beasts but with bigger magical beasts, the space you need to make will also become bigger. That kind of magic that can create such a huge space, Another World so to speak, is an advanced level magic.”

“So there’s no problem with small or middle size beasts, then?”

“Yep, creating a middle class Dimensional Home for the beasts can be done one way or another. Only thing though is that since Space Magic is a high level attribute, if a middle class space magic were to be seen by someone, it will be stand out. But if it was only a low level space magic around the size of an item box, or short distance teleportation then there won’t be much of a problem.”

“If it’s that much then that’ll be fine. I’ll do things as stealthily as possible.”

“Un, then, just one more thing left. What do you want? Should we strengthen your body further and go with different martial class skills?”

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“This body has already been forged by martial arts. Even if I go there, the martial arts that I’ve learned in this world will still apply, right?’

“Of course, or rather in regards to techniques isn’t the one over yours more varied?”

“Then in that case I won’t learn new martial class skills and go with what I’ve trained with until now. Also, will my knowledge regarding medicine and medicinal plants still apply there?”

“It will, the basic knowledge of the other world and knowledge regarding

the skills will respond to the level of skill you possess now. Once you get there you will understand. Of course, your level of knowledge and ability will remain the same."

"Understood, well then in that case please grant me the ability of Alchemy."

"Is that ok? If it's magic, then it will require you to train you know? You won't be able to use it instantly."

"Yes, it's alright. Since I already have a way to protect my body and I've also already received healing spells.

There's also no problem in regards to martial skills. That's why, little by little, I want to train my magic. Also alchemy combined with pharmacy may turn out to be interesting. Lastly, by extracting the ingredients of

medicinal plants it may be possible to create medicine similar to the ones we have in our world, so with that I don't have much to worry."

"Right… then that's good…well then, as expected we really have ended way earlier than we planned, huh. Even though I usually get forced to sit with people I don't like for a long time, why is it that when I find a guy I like the preparations end so fast?"

"Well, it's good bye."

"Unfortunately, that seems to be the case, after deciding the power we will grant you, without waiting we have to send you to the other side."

"I see… I'm reluctant to part but, this favor that you have given me. I won't forget it for the rest of my life."

"Don't mind it. It's your life, live as you wish."

"Because we'll always be watching over you."

"Show us something interesting, ok?"

"As much as possible, we'll first send you to a safe forest, so no worries."

"This is the last time, so it's fine to say something selfish you know?"

"It's fine even if you talk without all the formalities."

"At the very last won't you show us your real self?"

"Um… yeah, that's right. Thanks. As expected, if it's only on the outside then the fact that I'm just acting politely can be seen through, huh." (Note: He stops using formal language from here on.)

“You’re human, so don’t think of absurd things. We are god. Noticing is a given.”

“You’re Etiquette Level is 7. That’s really amazing. Even amongst the nobles and the royal family, there isn’t someone with a Lv 7.”

“Well, hearing that makes me feel somewhat better, since I’m quite bad at dealing with people. Somehow I ended up being able to do things exactly in accordance to form. And because I can do something like this, I was able to barely pass as a working adult. That’s why being found out is quite problematic.”

“Even though, right from the start, anything would have been fine.”

“Isn’t it also bad to just suddenly talk casually with a god?”

“It’s unpleasant if you go too far, but if it’s you then its fine. Besides, my heart is big, I’m a goddess after all.”

“I see.”

“Do you have any plans after going there?”

“If you have any worries, you should let it all out now.”

“We’re all ears here.”

“Right… Well in regards to my inter-personal relationships. 39 years, and I’ve never been able to get along with people well. Even if I go to a different world, I am myself. Even if I go to a different world I don’t think that will change. Honestly, I’m tired of getting along with people. Just keeping up appearances to get along with other people, I’ve actually thought retiring soon would be good.”

“If you want to do that, then do it. That too is living.”

“But at the same time, since I’m going to a different world, I thought wouldn’t it be a waste if I don’t walk?

Hmm… what should I do…?”

“Then, for a while, while you’re thinking of retiring, when you feel like it, how about going on a trip?”

“Huh?”

“Well whichever way you decide to go, at the start when you enter the world you will be in the forest. If we were to teleport you right at the center of the town, it might end up being a huge mess. That’s why for a while, go live in the forest, and then after that, won’t you try going to the

village? Besides you want to practice your magic right?”

“Ah… well, yeah…”

“It’s fine to take your time. You’re the serious type so when you think of something you end up wanting to do everything. Do it slowly, one at a time. It’s fine to wait until when you feel like it. And even if at the very end you aren’t able to, then that’s also fine.”

“You’ve already died once, you know? That’s why you will be able to truly be reborn, your previous life is different. So, isn’t it fine if you live as you wish? Especially since right after going there, you’ll be only a kid. So I think it’s fine if you go there and play as much as you want without thinking of anything else, other than protecting your life. Enjoy your practice in magic, Ah… but when you go there, you won’t be able to use

everything from the start. But, since, you have the knowledge you had with you on Earth, you should be able to understand very quickly, so don’t be impatient, ok?” It will be good if you put emphasis on controlling.”

“Umu, that will be good. In the unlikely case, where a bandit may be there, if it’s you then it’s not like you’ll fall behind.”

“Live at ease, as you wish… huh? If I can live in the forest, then I’ll seclude myself there for a while. You made me a feel a little better just now. Thanks.”

“If you try going to the town, then, it will be good if you go to the church, frequently. Although we can’t meet, if you can get a Skill of Trust, then for a short time, there’s a possibility we may be able to talk. The higher the level, the longer and more frequent the meeting.”

“Roger that, when I go to the city, I won’t forget and we’ll talk.”

“Un, I’ll be waiting.”

“Oh yeah, won’t the three gods tell me their names?”

“Ah… now that you mention it, we haven’t able to tell you, huh? Please, excuse my rudeness, I am in the other world “Seiruforu” the Creation Deity, the greatest god, Gayn.”

“I am the god of life, Kufo”

“I am the god of love and healing, Rurutia”

“Gayn, Kufo, Rurutia. I’ve memorized it. I don’t know how long it will take, but I promise I will definitely go the temple.”

“At that time I’ll have you talk to me.”

“I am also free so… ho ho ho.”

As Gayn laughed, Ryouma’s body began to be covered with light, the size of a grain.

“… Looks like it’s time”

“Umu, Just like the light novel of your world, template, all the sudden being calm… there’s nothing to worry about.” (Note: didn’t get the latter half of this line very well)

“Well then, there’s nothing left to say… Until the next time we are able to talk again, based on the standards of man it will take quite a bit of time.”

“Yeah, that’s about right… But whatever you say, I’m grateful to the three gods. And then… oh right, why is it that I have magical strength and magic class skills going into another world?”

“Ah… that’s because…”

“You kept going over the routine your dad made you until the day before you died, right?”

“That’s cause it’s completely become a routine, besides I had the time.”

“In that routine you also meditated every day, without missing, right? That is the cause of your magical strength.

That’s why, without thinking about it you were able to detect magic, and have been able to continuously

manipulate magic. Because you earnestly continued to do that, without noticing it, you kept using up magic. As a result you ended up with the Magic Recovery Rate UP Skill. There are also other reasons, but us gods of a different world, do not know it either.”

“I see… thanks, just understanding that is enough. I will be born again, the things that happened in earth have nothing to do with me, right?”

“That’s right, it’s fine if you don’t think about it anymore.”

As Rurutia said that, the light became stronger.

“Ah, by the way, in the end… why did I die? I should have been sleeping as usual… was it a heart attack?”

“Nah, you hit your head while sleeping and ended up with brain hemorrhage.”

“Eh!? I don’t remember such a thing at all though!?”

“Un… well yeah, that’s true.”

“I also haven’t seen anyone die in that way other than you.”

“You know… although it’s hard to say, the thing is you sneezed a lot, you know? Many times.”

“… huh?”

“4 times actually. While you were sneezing, the pillow slipped out, and at the last moment, you hit your head against the floor. It’s because your futon was cheap, that’s why there wasn’t much cushion.”

“Although it wasn’t to the extent were it woke you up, that served as an impetus to the cutting of several blood vessels in your brain. Then until morning came, your brain, compressed by the hemorrhage…brought you to your death bed....”

“How come I died like that?! What is that! Hit the head and bleed, from what I know that normally happens in accidents, no? But, a sneeze!? I died while sleeping because of a sneeze? I just can’t accept it!!!”

“C-Calm down…”

“I… I don’t know what I should say, but…”

“I understand that you can’t accept it, but, it can’t be helped anymore…”

“… right .. haa … cause of death: Brain Hemmorage, cause: Sneeze. … Today, this is definitely the most

shocking thing.”

While saying that, the light grew stronger again.

“Mu… looks like its ready.”

“It’s time, although I don’t really want to end this with this kind of conversation.”

“Stay well, and be happy, ok?”

“Ahh, got it… truly, truly from the bottom of my heart thank you very much!!”

“Umu! Go! Open the gates to a new world!”

“We grant you our blessings!”

“Let there be light on the road of your journey!”

“Enjoy your new life!!! “ (The three gods in conjunction)

Right after that, Ryouma was swallowed up with a light brighter than any other. And when that light disappeared, Ryouma was no longer there.

“…Looks like he was able to leave safely.”

“We were able to give him power without any problems… the resulting magical strength was tremendous… much more than expected.”

“The other end of the transfer is a safe forest without any strong beasts or animals, its fine right?”

“That’s right, I hope that kid finds happiness.”

“I hope so too. The world is overflowing with unfortunate people but, in his case, the kind of misfortune he has is different…”

“Sigh… exactly what is the god of earth thinking!? To think that he would actually change a living being’s destiny!”

“Most likely Ryouma Takuma was originally supposed to have become some sort of amazing person. Perhaps, as a martial artist. But with the sleight of hand that destiny was changed, the people he should have met was mostly filled and changed with malice, closing the road that should have been there.”

“And in the end, the happiness that he should have received was taken away… I don’t know if the god received something from a believer or something, but this way of doing things is… rather than being a god isn’t it more like a demon’s?”

“I heard that faith on earth has been fading but, is it that bad? At any rate it’s not an act that should have ever been done.”

“His abnormal Resist Class Skill Level is a result of the god’s curse which caused him to suffer. Because of that his level grew higher than normal.”

“I wasn’t able to say it to Ryouma-kun but because he was influenced by the power of a god, that’s why he ended up gaining Magic Class Skills.”

“Let’s make him happy on the other side… I take it there’s no objection?”

“Of course. As the god of life, He, who desperately lived through his past life, can receive Lv 5 survival skills.”

“Is that ok? Can his vessel take it?”

“It’s fine, it’s fine. I just added a bit of power to his originally Lv 3 survival skills to transform it. From the start he was someone who held a

skill of the same kind, not only is it easy to add but also safe… but really, no matter how you look at it, it's an abnormal skill. To think that he was able to go this far with his survival skills in good ol' peaceful Japan. I do wonder though exactly what was he doing with his traps in that kind of environment."

"… It seems like in order to keep his living expenses in check, he was quietly using traps to catch pigeons in the park, bringing them home and eating them. And since he kept doing it secretly, in the end he also ended up increasing his covert skills."

"Thinking from the perspective of Japan's common sense, that's completely an out, isn't it? Well… it's because he was able to do something like that, that he was able to live until 39 years old."

"Isn't it fine since he will be able to get along with Seiruforu quickly?"

"True, the world he is facing may be Seiruforu… or wait a moment, then in that case give him survival skills before he wakes up."

"I, too, as the goddess of love will grant him the blessed protection of human relations."

"As for me I will change his luck a bit from being too low to one a bit better than average… and as for his face instead of an ikemen (good looking guy) I'll give him a face that gives off a gentle feeling since he isn't really used to women, so… being popular all of the sudden may just bring him trouble."

After that for a few minutes the gods closed their eys, stood up. And then after which, they opened their eyes and began talking.

"Well then, the next thing to do is waiting, huh? Well this is something basic, so I wonder if its fine?"

"It's definitely ok, he has survival skills after all."

"Well then that's fine, so let's go fix his identity settings. There shouldn't be a problem if it's in Seiruforu, and that abnormal Skill Resist Level needs to be explained… or else."

"I don't know if it's ok or not to say its happiness but… Pain Resist and Mental resist are Lv 8 and Lv 9. That musn't be found out with only a little prodding."

"Well, it's at the level where if people see it, they'll sympathize."

"That the heart wasn't broken is really a miracle, you know? Well as long as the person has common sense, they won't go around trying to open

old wounds.”

“Then in that case how about this setting? A boy who was influenced for a long time by some cruel

circumstances, becoming distrustful of others and without going to the city lived in the forest. What do you think?”

“Needs a bit more details but for a summary that should be pretty good. And though it’s a different world it’s not really far off from what happened.”

“And practically speaking, he does have a tendency to be distrusting of humans.”

“I think he actually did a good job to grow up without being too twisted, considering the environment.”

“Umu, His personality was more or less twisted but… in Seiruforu that range of idiosyncrasy should pass. Besides he also possesses Japans morals, so I don’t think he will go off the right path. If it’s only Seiruforu’s common sense, but…”

“That can’t be helped. On the other side is a dangerous world, different from Earth, and has no hesitation in taking human life.”

“Well, that’s right… Shall we put the details in?”

After that the three gods begun discussing and then they too crossed worlds on their own and returned to the world they should be.

Prologue 3

After the three main gods returned home, they called the souls of two elders.

“Oi!… what the?”

“Where is th–!! Teagle? Is it Teagle!?”

“Melia!? How!?”

“Ah… looks like you’ve come to.”

At that voice the 2 elders came to notice the three gods and turned around.

“Wh-who the fuck are you?!”

“Wait Teagle! You people are, gods, right?”

“Precisely, you did well figuring that out. It was us that brought the two of you here.”

“Because of my age, I was being nursed by my husband and should have already died. That I’m here, then does that mean Teagle also?”

“Yeah… Of all things the last thing I saw was that piece of shit village chief… And? What did you bring us here for?”

“Well… you see, we want the two of you to lend us your name.”

After that the three main gods explained to the two the exhaustion of mana and the supplementation of it by taking mana from a different world. During that, they also talked about the situation of Ryouma Takebayashi.

“I think, I got the gist of it… in other words this guy you brought from another world is packing quite a bit of heat, so in order not to arouse suspicion you want us to make it so that he is our disciple.”

“Exactly, not only did he come from another world and is talented at martial arts, but he is also talented at magic.”

“If you include even the gifts you’ve given him then, he’ll end up going past the realm of geniuses.”

“While I didn’t add anything to his martial skills, I made it so he can use various magic. Depending on how he trains, he can grow really fast. Moreover, being able to use both martial and magic skills, he’ll end up reaching an absurd level. So I want to make it so that he was picked up by you guys and was taught various techniques. And besides… This is his status.”

When the two elders saw the status, their faces were filled with shock.

“Wh-what is this guy?”

“For Resist Class Skills to actually end up like this… “

“Umu, the Resist Class Skills are especially abnormal.”

“From the looks of things, the god of the other world intentionally gave him bad luck and stole the happiness that he should have had. Thanks to that he kept living his life in suffering. These various skills were not given by us so we can’t exactly erase it. But the thing is, once he gets there he’ll definitely get asked how his Resist Class Skills ended up like that.”

“That’s why you chose our village.”

“Well that does make sense, the people around the village are quite problematic. Children and people who can’t fight get bullied a lot as useless trash… but, won’t they find out? All they need to do is ask where that kid’s family is and they’ll find out right there and then.”

“There’s no such worries. Since, a few months after you guys died, the village was destroyed. There’s no one left in that village anymore.”

“What!?”

“What happened?”

“Well you see the people of that village were making a killing out of the weapons and medicines you guys made, but when you guys died all that went down the drain. In the end they weren’t really able to find a way to make a living.”

“After you guys died, the village head couldn’t make as much money as you two and went mad. The useless

people and the children who lost their relatives were then sold to slave traders. And eventually, even the villagers themselves started to get sold to the slave traders. When the villagers found out about that, it became a huge mess and the villagers killed the village head. The villagers then took all the money the village head saved and tried to run away to the village. Along the way though, they ended up falling out and most of

them died, the few survivors were then caught by slave traders and were sold."

"Tch! How dumb can one get!?"

"It's because exploiting the ones with lesser social status amongst the villagers is a continuing tradition with a history of 150 years. To have lasted 150 years, I don't think it's that bad." [Gayn]

"True… Then from the looks of it there's no problem. Go ahead." [Teagre]

"I'm also ok with it. Besides we're already dead. So it doesn't matter anymore. I was called the Martial God

Note: Chufeng!) during my lifetime, but honestly it never really mattered." Said Melia, "Rather if possible I would like it if that kid could continue the research I couldn't finish…"

"No problem I'll let him know. Although I don't what he will do… is that ok?"

"Of course, whatever happens is the kid's choice. After all this is only my selfishness."

"Then in that case tell him where I hid Melia's book and my weapons. There were quite a bit of stuff I didn't want to give to the villagers so I hid them before I died. If it's you guys, then you understand, right? If the boy is going to inherit Melia's research, then those things will definitely be necessary. My weapons should prove to be helpful."

"Certainly, it's been granted. I thank the two of you for your cooperation. As thanks I'll arrange it so that the two of you meet in the next life." [Rurutia]

"My… thank you."

"Why? Why would you do something like that just because we lent you our name after dying? Ah… whatever, I'll just gratefully take it. To the brat from the other world too! Thanks kid!"

Chapter 1

After that the three main gods saw the two elders off, and dealt with the preparations for the next life. And then after finishing the settings at the last moment, sent Ryouma a letter. The 3 gods ran some checks on the world that has been supplemented with mana, and then went back to their everyday lives.

In the other world, Seirofuru, within one of the countries, was a man named Takebayashi Ryouma. He was sent to the Forest of Gana in the kingdom of Rifo-ru. As soon as he woke up he took advantage of the lack of people and began his training in Martial Arts and Magic. Three years passed in the blink of an eye and not once has he thought of stepping out of the forest.

"Alright… I guess this is the day's meal."

Ryouma spent his day to day life gathering fruits, hunting animals, and using magic he learned. It was a comfortable life full of freedom and free of chains.

He made his house by digging a cave out of a cliff with the use of Earth Magic and put up a barrier for the entrance. The earth and sand he got from digging, with a flick of earth magic, were used to create the furniture.

As for meals, there were plenty from the surrounding forest. And with the use of the Neutral Type Magic "Appraisal", Ryouma could know whatever information he needs. Can it be eaten, can it not be eaten? Without question, Ryouma can distinguish these things. Moreover in his previous world Ryouma couldn't use magic and because of this was completely immersed in his new found hobby, magic.

Especially the Slave Magic.

Actually, when Ryouma first used Slave Magic, he had only wanted to try it out and caught the slime near him.

But somehow one way or another he ended up raising it as a pet and after half a year, something changed. The slime evolved.

When Ryouma woke up that day, he saw the slime and noticed that its color had changed. Somewhat startled, he quickly used his Beast Appraisal ability and found out that the slime had evolved from a slime to

a sticky slime.

Ryouma pondered on why the slime suddenly evolved and he figured that the culprit must be the Green Caterpillar.

For meals Ryouma generally fed the slime his leftovers and during hunting, he would continuously feed the slime the dead green caterpillars that kept appearing. He figured that was probably the reason. Wild slimes were at the bottom most of the ecosystem. Normally, without being able to catch their own preys to eat, they are only left with the choice of swarming over the corpses of the dead.

With that in mind, Ryouma had his meals every day and the left overs of that meal were given to his slime to eat.

In other words, Ryouma's slime is different from wild slimes and is able to eat every day. Moreover within the meal of the slime were some viscous body fluids. The green caterpillars that spit viscous threads were included in the day to day meal. Ryouma considered this to be a probable hypothesis for the evolution of the slime.

After that day Ryouma caught three slimes and everyday he would continue to feed it green caterpillar. And after two months the three slimes had all evolved into sticky slimes just as he suspected.

Because of this Ryouma's interest in Slave Magic increased and he caught a large number of slimes and made them eat various things. Speaking of which, because of these the food consumption shot off through the roof…

until he thought of a plan to combine his traps with the sticky slimes. Like this he was able to secure the feeds for his slimes.

The end result? Ryouma's slimes' current status as of this time are as follows:

What started out as 4 slimes, somehow ended up this many after splitting. Also the abilities at the start were only Strong Cohesive Liquid, Digestion, Absorption, and digestion but after a while the slimes also learned Cohesive Hardening Liquid, Cohesive String Shot, and Jump. From the looks of things it seems even magical beasts can learn skills by training. Also it seems it is also possible to learn new skills by combining already learned skills.

After studying the properties of the cohesive class skills, Ryouma was pondering on whether or not the 2 kinds of liquid, Strong Cohesive Liquid and Sticky Hardening Liquid, from the slime will be able to create something.

Doing that he noticed that he was able to make something threadlike.

Wanting to see whether the slimes will be able to create the same thing in their body, he made them do it. It took some practice but after a while the slimes learned the skill.

Sticky Slime x 153			
The sticky slime is composed of highly cohesive viscous liquid. It can spit out the viscous liquid, as well as use the viscous liquid hidden in its body to capture its prey and devour it.			
Skills			
Strong Stricky Liquid Lv4	Strong Cohesive Liquid Lv4	Sticky Hardening Liquid Lv1	Sticky String Shot Lv1
Split Lv3	Digestion Lv3	Jump Lv1	Absorption Lv3
Poison Slime x 188			
This slime evolution is a result of continuously being fed poisonous plants and animal feed. But because of the method of ingesting poison, a large number of slimes died in the process, and only a handful of slimes managed to evolve.			
Skills			
Generate Poisonous Liquid Lv3	Poison Resistance Lv3	Generate Paralyzing Poison Liquid Lv3	Jump Lv1
Digestion Lv3	Split Lv3	Absorption Lv3	
Acid Slime x 100			
A slime born out of sheer coincidence. Apparently in order for the			

slimes to consume the hard bones of beasts, the slimes body responded by increasing their digestion ability.

Skills			
Generate Strong Acid Lv3	Acid Resistance Lv3	Jump Lv1	Digestion Lv4
Split Lv2	Absorption Lv3		

Cleaner Slimes x 11			
Another slime born out of sheer luck. Slimes are omnivores, but they have a particular fondness for drinking water. When Ryouma washed his body, there were some among the slimes that wanted to drink the water Ryouma used. Well, it didn't seem like it really mattered so he left them alone, and then they ended up like this.			
Skills			
Cleaning Lv4	Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Disease Resist Lv5
Poison Resist Lv5	Jump Lv1	Digestion Lv3	Absorption Lv3
Split Lv1			

Scavenger Slime x 457
Ryouma was unhappy with the fumes coming from the toilet and the place he designated for trash. Remembering how the slimes liked to gather around the foul stench of dead bodies and the case of the cleaner slimes. He decided to catch 20 new slimes and threw them all there. The result was the Scavenger Slime. This evolution is able to turn its digested nutrients into fertilizer and throw it up. It also splits far more frequently compared to other slimes.

Skills			
Disease Resist Lv5	Poison Resist Lv5	Eat Filth Lv5	Cleaning Lv6
Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Release Stench Lv4	Return Nutrients Lv3
Jump Lv1	Digestion Lv6	Absorption Lv3	Split Lv6

Like this, Ryouma’s pets numbered over 900. From the start Ryouma had always enjoyed setting additional

milestones for himself whenever he played games, and never found any difficulties with doing mindless things repetitively like raising levels. After coming here, with no one to stop him, he had completely lost even the tiniest tinge of self-control.

Incidentally, because tamers normally ignored slimes, no one knew anything of the slime evolutions. And the cleaner slimes and scavenger slimes in particular are new species that have never existed before.

Ryouma’s days were spent like this, continuously indulged with the slimes and his magic. From time to time beasts and bandits would come around but they were all crushed by the number of slimes and traps. And as for the ones who did manage to do something, they were killed effortlessly by Ryouma’s own fighting strength.

Chapter 2

~Side Ryouma~

Today was like any other day and I was out hunting to get some food for my slimes. Only, today, some visitors came. They didn't seem to be bandits, so they were normal people. Within the three years I've been living isolated here in the forest, I haven't met any other humans that weren't bandits. This was the first time in a long while.

The number of people reflected in my eyes is 5. All of them except for one were wearing armor. That guy who wasn't wearing armor was covered in blood and wrapped with bandages. Looks like he's hurt.

"Ugg… Uggh."

"Hyuzu! Pull yourself together!"

"Camil! Mana is!?"

"Sorry… It's not ready yet."

"Leav… Me…"

"Don't say stupid things!"

From the looks of things, they seem to be in a really bad state. I think I should take them with me to my house to let them rest and I could also help tend to their wounds.

In order to do that, I need to go to them and talk to them in a way without being threatening. Hmm… but then, what should I say? "Good day?" Yeah right… the circumstances don't fit at all! How about, "Hey! you guys! You guys are definitely suspicious, right!? …. Actually I haven't talked to anyone for the past 3 years so I have communication disorder…" Something like that?

While I was in the process of thinking up of a way to put down their guard, they spotted me.

"Tch! Who's there!?"

"Wait!"

The man who walked in front pointed his sword immediately but the guy behind him made him stop.

“I apologize for that, just now. We were just being cautious. By the way, who are you? And why are you here?

This is a bit too deep in the jungle for a kid so you must be lost, huh?”

Asked the man, but somehow Ryouma’s voice couldn’t come out.

“… Hunt.”

“Hunt? Hunting? You?”

“Trap.”

“Oh, you hunt by using traps?”

Somehow someway the guy understood what I nodded vigorously to indicate that he got it right.

“But this place is dangerous… ah, whatever. Rather than that, why are you blocking our way?”

I pointed at the wounded man.

“Wounded…”

“Exactly, my subordinate is wounded, which is why we are in a hurry.”

I hurriedly brought out the potion I made, but seeing that, the guy with a sword from a while ago went in front. I quickly jumped back and showed them the potion.

“Wait! … Is that a potion?”

I nod.

“Wound… dangerous… Medicine… Use.”

“You would let us use that medicine?”

“Hurry…”

Hearing those words, the men glanced at each other and carefully took the bottle.

After they confirmed that the contents weren’t poisonous they gave made the wounded man drink it. After a little while, the color of the man’s face became slightly better and they lowered their guard a little.

“I give you my thanks for giving us this medicine. Like this, Hyuzu may be able hold on for a bit longer.”

I wanted to tell the guy who was thanking me to go to my house to get

some rest… but…

“House… Rest…”

This is pathetic, the words just won’t come out at all. It’s not like he is a bear or something. I tried talking again and somehow someway I was able to get my thoughts across. Somehow…

We came across a bit of a problem along the way, but somehow we managed to reach the cliff. Whenever I leave I would normally use Earth Magic to shut the entrance tight, so I used Earth Magic to open the entrance and invite them in.

“Inside, welcome.”

“Thank you.”

When everyone managed to get in, I put up the Barrier of Hiding. Seeing that, one of the armor wearing men spoke up.

“This is… Barrier Magic? That’s a pretty unusual magic, huh? Is the barrier, hiding us?”

I nodded my head once and then replied.

“Can run… You five… don’t worry.”

“R- Right. Thanks.”

Nodding once, we went deep into the cave. As expected, if someone were to suddenly bring you to their place with nowhere to run, you’d be anxious. But rather than that, I wonder what I should do… More or less it’s gotten better but, I still can’t seem to talk properly…

Chapter 3

TL Note: To avoid confusion, let's make things clear. This novel follows western name ordering. So first name, then last name. Rheinhart is the first name, and Jamil is the last name.

~Side Rheinhart Jamil~

That boy we met who gave us medicine for Hyuzu, brought us deep into the forest. I wondered to myself. Why is he in a place like this? And looking at him, I can see that he's quite young.

"Is there really a place we can rest at if we keep going this way?"

"I don't know. But the medicine he gave us didn't have any poison and I can't feel any hostility from the kid."

"It's probably because he uses traps to hunt… that kind of hunter would make a safe zone inside the forest so he can hide easily. So it's not too strange for there to be a camp deep here in the forest."

The other three that was with them also had their suspicions. After all no matter how you put it, even if there's no hostility coming from the kid, a kid out here in the forest is definitely strange. Only, the clothes he's wearing are too clean. So regardless of how cheap those clothes are, he shouldn't be a bandit.

While thinking about various things, the kid suddenly stopped.

"Is there a problem?"

"Trap… Prey, caught… Will come… now."

"It's good that you caught something but, what do you mean it will come–!"

All of the sudden, near the boy, a slime came out of the thicket. Immediately, I took my sword out and slashed at the slime.

But the kid went and stood between me and the slime. What are–! …Ku!? Like flowing water, he took out a

dagger from his waist, pointed it diagonally downwards and parried my attack. And then he tried to hit my wrist with his dagger's pommel.

Right after, the boy jumped back taking some distance, but at the same

time he took with him the slime I tried to cut… The slime I tried to cut… then, perhaps?

"You bastard! What do you think you're doing!? Rheinhart-sama please step back!"

"Wait! Kid, is that slime your slave monster?"

Hearing that, the kid nodded deeply many times.

"Sheathe your sword Jill."

"But!"

"Stand down! In this situation, the one at fault is me. This kid didn't do anything other than protecting his slave monster from my attack. Also he didn't try to attack me after protecting the slime. Above all, he never had any intentions to hurt me."

Otherwise that one attack wouldn't make sense. He didn't use the blade but instead used the pommel. Clearly, he never had any intentions of actually fighting. But still… what the hell is this kid? Even though I'm like this, I still have confidence in my sword, you know?

"My apologies, I didn't know it was your slave monster. But a slime, huh? That's really nostalgic, when I first started out I also started with a slime."

"…Slave Magic… Practitioner?"

"Well, former Slave Magic Practitioner. A few years ago when I got married, my slave monsters grew too old to fight. I've never really tried to tame a new one ever since. Since I've already settled down. But, let me tell you, in the past I took with me beasts like Red Horse and Blizzard Ape."

"… Amazing person?"

"You see, my household has been Slave Monster Arts Practitioners for generations. From the moment we were born, we are taught all sorts of things. It's not like I'm particularly gifted at magic. Although when it comes to my sword arm, I do have quite a bit of pride."

The kid took the rabbit the slime brought to him, put it in the pouch on his waist, and then we started walking again. From time to time we would stop, and slimes would come to bring him small animals. After a while we were finally able to see a cliff.

"Wait"

After saying that, the kid held his hand out towards the surface of the

rock and used Earth Magic. A part of the rock broke down as if it was dissolving and an entrance appeared.

“Inside, welcome…”

“Thank you.”

From the looks of things, this is his so called home. I see, using Earth Magic he created a cave inside the cave.

Certainly, if it’s like this, then it’s probably safe. While thinking that, as we entered the cave, the boy used magic on the entrance. When Camil saw that, he couldn’t help but ask.

“Is this Barrier Magic? That’s some pretty unusual magic you’re using there, huh? Is the effect concealment?”

The kid nodded once and then answered.

“…Can run… You five… don’t worry.”

“R–Right. Thank you.”

I wonder if he noticed that we were still being cautious until now. After this, I definitely need to apologize. After walking deeper into the cave, we saw walls and surfaces smoothed out cleanly. Furniture made out of stone and wood decorated the room and the surrounding walls had glowing magic stones. Although we were inside a cave, the room had plenty of light.

“This is.”

“What a surprise, it’s actually more of a house than I had thought.”

“Here… wounded, sleep.”

“Sorry about this. Hyuzu, go lie down. Pull yourself together.”

“Y–yeah.”

“Potion… will, come.”

As the kid said that, he entered a hole in the opposite direction.

“Well… in any case, we made it in one piece.”

“Yeah, our luck was good.”

“I’m grateful to him.”

“…”

“Something the matter, Zeff?”

“Don ‘cha think this room is a bit weird? Look, there are few traps, signs of living for a long time, and the furniture are enough only for 1 person.”

“Now that you mention it… is that boy living here all by himself?

“Finding out he could use Slave, Barrier, and Earth magic at that age had already shocked me. But living deep in the forest all by himself, he’s not normal.”

“He may be older than he looks… Only, he’s definitely not an elf.”

While talking about such things, the kid came back with his poison slime carrying a large number of potions.

“Potion… Came.”

“Thank you, I’ll definitely repay you someday.”

“... Don’t mind… can make, as much… as I want.”

At those words we couldn’t help but stare alternately at the boy and at the bottle. Camil, unable to hold, exclaimed.

“You made this potion!?”

Although at the strength of that voice he shook momentarily, but he quickly nodded his head. Now that he mentions it, the number of potions he has is definitely too many. Clearly not an amount he could afford.

“Water.”

Said the kid. The slime behind him filled a vessel made of rock with water and then offered it to us.

“Thanks.”

“I’m saved.”

"Thanks boy.”

“Thank you.”

“… Ah…”

“Hmm? Something the matter?”

“Name… Ryouma.”

And then, it hit. We got all the way here without giving our names.

“Ryouma? I suppose that should be your name, then. My apologies for the

late introduction, I am Rheinhart Jamil, the feudal lord of the Jamil duchy. For lending me your hand to save my subordinate, I offer you my thanks."

"!? Pardon… my behavior!"

"No no, please don't be apprehensive. You are my benefactor. Please continue to speak as you always have."

"… Thank you."

"Good. And this here from the right is my subordinate Jill, a swordsman. Zeff, the scout. The magician, Camil.

And the sleeping one over there is the spear user, Hyuzu."

"Name's Jill. Because of you we were saved. Sorry about my behavior before."

"Vigilance… obvious."

"It's Zeff, nice to meet you."

"And I'm Camil. A pleasure to meet you. But seriously… I ran out of mana and couldn't use any healing spells. If you hadn't come, we'd be knee deep into the trench by now. So thank you, really, thank you."

"… It's, fine."

"We took a detour on the edge of the forest by horseback. Over there we were attacked by some bandits."

"Bandits alone ain't a problem but… while we were going at it a black bear came biting out of nowhere. Hyuzu got taken by surprise and was done in."

"We managed to defeat the bear but Hyuzu's wound was worse than we thought. Seeing how we probably

wouldn't make it to the village, we tried to go through the forest."

Hearing that, the kid started nodding showing he understood.

"That aside… kid what are you doing here? I heard that thing about you hunting but it seems like you've been living here for quite some time. And hunting at your age and even using magic and making potions, I'm really shocked."

"Grandmother, Grandfather… learned… Former, adventurer."

Oh, so you had former adventurers for your grandparents?

"And where are they? Did they go somewhere?"

Hearing those words, the kid cast his eyes downward, and said.

"… They've passed"

"I see, sorry."

"It's fine… 3 years, already."

"No–… 3years ago?"

"3 Years!?"

Exclaimed the 4 men in unison.

"J–Just wait a second, you mean they didn't pass just a few days ago or something!?"

"You, since when did you start living here!?"

"3 years ago… village, left … I … because… outsider."

To think there was such an exclusive village… More or less there should be something like that, but really… to think there's such a cruel place.

"You weren't chased out on the village and left on your own?"

"Villagers, Opression… 95%... took."

"95%!?"

"Oh boy, that's a helluva crazy village you got there, huh? Even for a cold village, that's just pushing it."

"You did pretty good, living until now."

"Grandparents… Medicine and, Weapons… Good stuff… High… Living, Was able… but, they already… not

here… can't make… they, said…. Different village… go, so, village… left… here, live… because… can live."

I see… so he stopped trusting humans after being oppressed by the village.

"I understand your reasons but. I really can't recommend it. In the forest, there are many powerful beasts. To a kid your age, this place is just too dangerous."

"It's ok… Lived… 3 years."

"But."

“Oh right! Wait a sec.”

All of the sudden Camil started searching his bag.

“Ah, found it, found it. It’s this.”

“What this?”

“This is a Small Identifying Crystal! This is an easy to use item that can identify your status. It can show you your five highest skills. And if touched by a criminal the light will turn red, if the person is innocent then the light is blue. After that, your name, age, race, and 5 skills will also be shown. If with this, you have a high level fighting skill then I’ll stop pestering you about leaving the forest.”

“Unders–tood.”

As the kid said that, he was about to touch the crystal until he remembered something.

“Before, bandits… attacked. Killed… them, is… that, sin?”

“If they were really bandits then there won’t be any problem.”

Hearing that, he touches the crystal. The light is blue, whether he actually killed bandits is still up in the air, but…

he is definitely not a criminal. But Camil, who was staring at the crystal, turned pale.

“Wh, what is this?”

“What’s th–“

Jill who took a peek at the crystal from behind, was suddenly breathless. Seeing that, I and Zeff also went to take a look. But after seeing the status, we were speechless.

Status Shown:

Domestic Chores Lv10

Mental Pain Resist Lv9

Physical Pain Resist Lv8

Disease Resist Lv7

Cold Resist Lv7

Impossible! What is with this level and skills!!? Domestic Chores Lv10… is whatever, but… Mental Pain Resist, Physical Pain Resist, and even Disease

and Cold Resist! Moreover everything is over Lv7!? Exactly what kind of environment was he in for him to end up like this? Moreover he is 11 years old, then that means he was living here since he was 8.

“Something the, matter?”

“Um… mmm… Unfortunately, a fighting skill didn’t come out~”

That’s it!? Is that what you should be talking about right now!? I said to myself as I kept staring at Camil. The other two were the same. Camil scowled back at us with a, ‘Then what SHOULD I talk about in this situation!?’

expression.

Sorry, I’m so sorry Camil. This isn’t really something you can talk about.

“Sorry but, do you mind letting me use your toilet?”

While thinking of what to say, what came out of my mouth were those words. The other three glared at me

fiercely. I’m sorry, but it can’t be helped… because I really want to run from this place as soon as possible.

“Inside, Will guide… Slime… Many… no worries.”

“I won’t. I was a former Slave Magic Practitioner, you know? So I won’t do anything to your slave monsters.”

I followed him to the deeper room. When we got there, what greeted me was a large number of slimes.

“This is amazing. I’ve never seen so many slimes before.”

“…For… Research…”

“Research?”

“Evolution, Slime’s.”

Having been told, I noticed that when you look at the slimes, not all of them were just slimes. Sticky Slime, Poison Slime, and over there that’s an Acid Slime! And then after that… what are those? Those two slimes… I’ve never seen those types before. But that aside, these kind of high level variations shouldn’t exist in this forest.

“You found the evolution conditions and made these evolve by yourself?”

“Yes.”

“The research of magical beast evolution conditions is a very important

thing to Slave Magic Users and

Conjurers. Understanding even a single one of these conditions takes a long time. The fact that you were able to understand so many is something worthy of praise. Unfortunately though… they're all just slimes…"

"Slime… Bad?"

"I'm sorry for saying this but slimes are weak magical beasts. Even if you make them evolve they're still weak.

Although Slave Magic Users and Conjurers often make use of them to study the basics, they don't have much value outside of that. In general practitioners of both arts would pick a slime for studying, then after a while get rid of them and then tame a Horn Rabbit for their next beast. Because you see, a horn rabbit is at the very least, as a pet, loveable.

"… Tough world"

Tough world? Those are the thoughts of an 11 year old kid?

"Well that's only the opinion of the majority, it's not like all Slave Magic Users think that way. At the very least, the Poison Slime's poison and the Acid Slime's acid isn't something that is made light of. After studying the basics, it's a valid way to make use of the slimes already tamed. Because if it's a poison slime or an acid slime then at the very least its power is greater than of a horn rabbit."

"Slime… Convenient… Useful."

"Knowledge the magical beast, how to take advantage of its traits, and giving out orders to make decisions on the battlefield are the most important things to a Slave Magic User. It seems you know this well."

"Arrived, toilet, here."

"Right, thank you."

Now that you mention it I did ask to borrow the lavatory. Well it's not like I could tell him it was a lie after going all this way… so I just went ahead and took care of my business then went back to the room.

Chapter 4

TL Note: In Japan when they check stuff, a ○ means a check. If they cross things out, it means it's wrong. So when the slime makes a circle, it means yes, or affirmative… kinda like a thumbs up sign.

After guiding Rheinhart and going back to the room where the other four where, Jill asked Ryouma a question.

"Ryouma, how do you usually hunt?"

"Trap… Bow… Slime."

"The slime aside… you're basically a genuine hunter, huh?"

Having seen Ryouma's skills, they did their best not to make a careless remark. So aside from the sleeping Hyuzu, the other four engaged in idle chatter.

"Uh…! Haa, Haa…"

"Hyuzu!"

"Get a hold of yourself!"

"We managed to stop the bleeding with the potion, but this time he's gone down with a fever."

"Antipyretic… Have… Water… Come…"

As Ryouma said that he ran into the deeper halls.

"Master, it seems meeting that boy was truly good luck."

"Indeed, if we weren't able to meet him, we wouldn't be able to save Hyuzu."

"Although his condition is still unstable, even if we were able to use magic to stop the bleeding. The fever would still be able to claim his life, since magic can't lower the fever."

"Well, after losing all that blood, plus the fatigue. It's not so surprising."

"But that aside, what are you gonna do about the kid? It's too dangerous out here in the forest."

"I know that. But he's already lived here for 3 years, he should already be

aware of the danger.”

“Since he has actually survived…”

“Moreover that number of Resist Skills and level. The village he lived in must have been really cruel. To tell him to go to the town… I don’t even know if he understands that it’s a safe place. The only saving grace is that he’s at least not in a state where he will just come and kill a person on sight.”

“Aah… Yeah, something like that did happen in the past, huh? That level of Resist Skill is at the point where it’s not strange for someone’s heart to break or for them to die.”

“Rheinhart-sama, as the father of one child, isn’t there something?”

“Ya know in this room outside of our boss here, there ain’t a single person who has a kid. How are we supposed ta decide?”

“But I’m also at a lost here. He’s a special case and besides, as a father, I haven’t done anything amazing!”

“Don’t throw out your chest over something so sad!”

“Well, jokes aside… When we get home, I’ll have to talk to father and Elize.”

After a while, some slimes entered carrying jars of water, an oddly shaped jar, and some kind of pelt.

The slimes stretched their body and put the various jars and pelt in front of the 4 men. After which, the slimes went back, except for one.

“Umm… Thanks”

At Camil’s words the body of the slime shook. Was it trying to say, “Don’t Mind.”? As the four thought that, the slime stretched his body and alternately pointed between Hyuzu and the things that were brought.

“Ah… right. This stuff is for the fever, huh?”

“Right… Well, the water is obvious, but the pelt… I suppose that’s to replace the sheets?”

As Camil said that, the slime extended his body, creating two tentacle-like arms and made a huge a circle.

“Alright–! Wait, this! Isn’t this Black Bear Pelt!?”

“Now that you mention it, certainly. This is without a doubt Black Bear Pelt.”

“That kid managed to hunt a black bear?”

“Unbelievable, but right now Hyuzu’s treatment needs to be prioritized”

At Rheinhart’s words, Zeff and Jill put the pelt over Hyuzu’s body. After which, Camil tried to get water from the stone bowl but was stopped by the slime.

“Eh, what?”

The slime stretched its body and pointed to the oddly shaped small jar.

“You want me to use this?”

At Camil’s questions, the slime responded by making another big circle. Camil followed the instruction and drew water from the jar.

“I’m gonna draw the water now.”

Right after, the slime extended its tentacles, and inclined the jar Camil was holding. The inclined jar had a long and narrow protrusion, and inside it lay an empty hole. From there the drawn water came out. Seeing that, the slime pointed at the hole, and then pointed at Hyuzu’s mouth.

“You want me to incline this towards Hyuzu’s mouth and make him drink it?”

The slime answered again by making a big circle. Camil did as he was told and made Hyuzu drink the water.

“… Looks like he was able to drink properly.”

Hearing those words, the slime jumped and went to towards the direction the other slimes went back to and disappeared. Around the same time after the slime had left, Ryuuma came back.

“Antipyretic… make him drink.”

“Thanks. You’re a great help.”

As Rheinhart said that, he made Hyuzu drink the medicine he got. As everyone heaved a sigh of relief, Camil asked about the jar.

“Hey, is this drinking jar specifically made for sick people?”

Ryouma deeply nodded.

“Oh, that’s really convenient”

“I have one more question, it’s about the slime that was here a while ago. That slime was quite handy. It’s the first time I’ve seen a slime that can respond to questions”

“At some point… it learned… if tamed for long, can learn…”

“I see… A Slave Magic User that has used a slime for a long time is really rare. And a slime like yours that has become able to understand is especially rare. So to say, there’s probably none outside of yours, huh?”

The 4 finally let their guard down as they came to understand that Ryouma truly wasn’t an enemy. Seeing as how effective the medicine was, and Hyuzu’s state stabilizing, the four breathed a sigh of relief. They passed the time by idly chatting about silly stories from outside the forest.

That day’s supper were the monsters caught by Ryouma and his slimes, plus the vegetables he personally

cultivated inside the cave. The menu were Stir-fried Chicken and Vegetables (To make it smell good, fruits that resembled lemon and herb were added) and Rabbit Meat Soup. Ryouma chose these for supper because they were easy to make but the other four thanked him a great deal finding them to be very complex dishes.

That day the five men all slept at Ryouma’s place. They were planning to leave after the next day but Hyuzu’s recovery was faster than expected. In order to make sure he was clear headed they decided to leave tomorrow morning before lunch.

“I really thought I was a goner this time! Thanks for saving my ass, sonny!”

“Is… it… really… fine?”

“What, you’re worried about me? I thought you hated people because I heard you didn’t want to go to villages or towns but unexpectedly…”

“Town, village… hate. But… wounded… people… concerned.”

“Gahaha! I See! I see! That guy was wrong! Ungh…”

The Hyuzu who was laughing suddenly staggered.

“Hyuzu, you ok?”

“Ah, ahhh… No prob, just got a little dizzy.”

“Hyuzu-san, it’s cause you’re still recovering.”

“Drink.”

“Hn? What is this bottle? Medicine?”

“”Blood… forming… medicine.”

“Blood-forming medicine, huh? Then I’ll quickly–! Argh! It stinks of fish! What’s up with this smell!?”

“… Effect… only, guarantee.”

“You heard what he said. He gave it to you out of good will. Drink it.”

“Wai–, this is–”

“Besides it would be a problem if you lost consciousness while we were on the road.”

“They’re also worried, you see.”

Saying that, Jill and Zeff held Hyuzu’s arm and shoulder to keep him from running or resisting. And then…

“Umm… I’m sorry!”

Camil took the blood forming medicine and poured it in Hyuzu’s mouth.

“%`#%$!!!!”

Having swallowed the medicine, Hyuzu raised his voice spouting something that can’t be put into words. After convulsing for a few times, he appeared to be completely exhausted.

“Ahhh, you, guys.”

“A good medicine is difficult to drink, Hyuzu.”

“Don’t worry, this kid’s medicine is the real thing.”

“Since the potion that healed Hyuzu’s wounds of good quality.”

“Armor… need?”

“Ah? Aaah… Oh yeah, the armor done in by the bear can’t be used anymore, the weapon too.”

“…weapon…armor... have… will bring, no.. problem.”

“Is that ok?”

“It’s… fine”

After having said that, Ryouma went inside. After a few minutes he came back with 10 slimes carrying five spears and 3 sets of armors.

“This… can be used.”

“Equipment used by bandits, you gathered some pretty good some stuff.”

“Everything is quite good. Is it really ok to give these to Hyuzu?”

“Weapon… must use… I… have, more…”

“This kind of spear, would go for around 5 small gold coins, you know?”

“Take it…”

“… Then, I’ll gratefully accept it. But, I just can’t agree with receiving something for free. Right now I can’t give you anything in return but if anything ever happens come to me, ok? I serve the household of the duke of Jamil after all. If anything happens come to the town of Gaunago, one of the towns under the Duchy of Jamil. It’s not that far from here and… if you ask around the guard’s room and ask to allow to meet up with the duke’s family’s guard Hyuzu, they will immediately come contact me. So don’t hold back”

Like this the five were able to put in order all of the preparations for their departure. They gave their thanks to Ryouma and then left. 3 years after coming to this world and living by himself, Ryouma was finally able to properly meet the people of this world.

Chapter 5

3 days after departing from Ryouma's house, the Duke and his men were able to arrive safely on the village of Gaunago.

"Father! Welcome home!"

"Welcome home, my dear."

Arriving home, the duke was greeted by his wife and daughter, as well as his own father.

"Rheinhart, you're back. You shouldn't make your wife and daughter worry too much. Even though it was only 1

day, because you didn't arrive on time your daughter and wife weren't able to calm down."

"I see, I'm sorry you two."

"No it's ok, since you were able to come back after all. Really, Grandpa! Why did you have to go and tell father that!?"

"Ho ho ho!"

"Don't try to trick me by laughing!"

"By the way, why were you late? And why is the horse you're using different from when you left?"

"Actually, we had to take a slight detour in the Forest of Gana and was attacked by bandits."

"Bandits!? Are you hurt!?"

"I'm fine Elia. We didn't lose to the bandits. But while we were fighting, a black bear came out of nowhere… and although we managed to win, Hyuzu got severely injured and I don't know if the horse is still around but it ran away."

"Is Hyuzu safe?"

"He's fine. I thought if we kept going at our pace, we wouldn't be able to save him because of how badly he was bleeding. So I made a decision to go through the forest to reach the village as soon as possible. Then along

the way we ended up meeting a strange boy. He gave us medicines and potions and stuff, and even offered to provide us a place to rest. Thanks to that we were able to walk, and even managed to recover to the point we could use horses."

Rheinhart proceeded to talk to the three about Ryoma.

"To think a child could stay deep in the forest and live by himself for 3 years."

"I was also surprised but it's the truth. It seems he was mistreated quite badly in the village he lived in before. He grew to dislike towns and villages and secluded himself deep in the forest. And besides…"

"And besides?"

"We checked his skills through the Small Identifying Crystal Camil brought. Within the five projected skills, four of them were Resist Skills"

"4 Resist skills? I see…"

"Actually, he might have more than that, though I can't say for sure."

"4 Resist Skills are plenty, you know? Just with that, it's a given that he's been raised in a horrible environment…

Why do you think so?"

"Because all the five skills projected were all greater than Lv 7."

"!!?"

The three were shocked.

"What did you say!?"

"Is that true!?"

"Yeah, I also doubted my own eyes but it's unmistakable. Jill, Zeff and Camil also confirmed it."

"Father, from what I can remember, a person that possess a skill more than Lv5 is very rare. Just obtaining one level is a painful and bitter experience. Because of this there are many people who give up trying to gain skills, but to actually gain so many Resist Skills…"

"I agree. But no matter how many times I looked at it, it stayed the same. Disease Resist Lv7, Cold Resist Lv7.

Even more, Physical Pain Resist and Mental Pain Resist were lv8 and Lv9 respectively.”

“Eigh–, Nine!?”

“Impossible… What kind of life does one have to live to actually end up like that…”

“I was wondering the same thing, father. It’s highly probable, that he has more Resist Skills at Lv7 and below that wasn’t shown by the small identifying crystal. And he should also be in possession of bow and short sword skills.

Honestly speaking, I left that place at a loss on what to do. This time I gave meeting to show my gratitude as an excuse, but I really wanted to have a conversation on what should be done.”

“Can that kid fight properly?”

“I wasn’t able to ask how he did it but he had several Black Bear Pelts. That goes to show that he has some skill.

Plus he was able to use Slave Magic, Barrier Magic, and Earth Magic.”

“Is that kid also a Slave Magic User?”

“Yeah, it seems he learned from his deceased grandmother. It doesn’t seem like he’s registered with the church.

But he is contracted with a number of slimes, and seems to have been researching the requirements for evolution.

As can be seen from the number of higher class slimes that shouldn’t exist in the Forest of Gana. There were large numbers of five different variations. I wasn’t able to ask but two of the variants were classes I’ve never seen before.”

“Slime, was it? Did he learn to use Slave Magic by watching?”

“Who knows? There’s a possibility he was only able to learn an incomplete Slave Magic, however, whether one can be an accomplished Slave Magic User or not is not something that can be decided by the strength of one’s beast alone.”

“Indeed, though it may be a slime, to be able to ascertain the conditions for evolution, he is exceptional.

Especially slime related research, save for a few, there shouldn’t be

anyone researching slimes. As for whether it will be valued by the church can't be said with certainty… but that boy can definitely be called a pioneer."

"Pioneer…"

"Hmm… dear. That child, he doesn't seem like a dangerous child, huh?"

"Yeah, he only doesn't want to go to town. I think he's a pretty good kid."

"Then in that case, let's all go together to give our thanks and meet him."

"Everyone?"

"Yup, besides there's a lot of things I don't understand. If we go on a trip alongside the next inspection of Gimuru we'll also be able to take Elia along. At that time, wouldn't be fine if we stopped by the Forest of Gana for a bit?

And besides, it's bad for Elia to just study on her desk all the time. She should also practice outside, right, stepdad?"

"Yes, that's correct… Elia is already 12, it should be fine if she goes out to tame her own beast soon."

"Is that true grandfather?"

"Of course. Provided that you take the responsibility of caring for your magical beast."

"Yes! I understand!"

"Good. Well, what do you think, Rheinhart?"

"No objections"

Like this they ended up making a visit to Ryouma's house.

————————————————

In the two weeks that passed after the Duke's party returned home, Ryouma was extremely busy. Why? Because the slime splitting began. The result of those splits are the present numbers.

Sticky Slime x 364

Skills			
Strong Stricky Liquid Lv4	Strong Cohesive Liquid Lv4	Sticky Hardening Liquid Lv2	Sticky String Shot Lv2
Split Lv3	Digestion Lv3	Jump Lv2	Absorption Lv3
Poison Slime x 323			
Skills			
Generate Poisonous Liquid Lv4	Poison Resistance Lv3	Generate Paralyzing Poison Liquid Lv3	Jump Lv2
Digestion Lv3	Split Lv3	Absorption Lv3	
Acid Slime x 211			
Skills			
Generate Strong Acid Lv4	Acid Resistance Lv4	Jump Lv2	Digestion Lv4
Split Lv2	Absorption Lv4		
Cleaner Slimes x 11			
Skills			

Cleaning Lv4	Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Disease Resist Lv5
Poison Resist Lv5	Jump Lv2	Digestion Lv3	Absorption Lv3
Split Lv1			
Scavenger Slime x 730			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv5	Poison Resist Lv5	Eat Filth Lv5	Cleaning Lv6
Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Release Stench Lv4	Return Nutrients Lv3
Jump Lv2	Digestion Lv6	Absorption Lv3	Split Lv6
Heal Slime x 2			
Skills			
Heal Lv1	Strengthen Vitality Lv1	Photosynthesis Lv3	Digestion Lv1
Absorption Lv1	Split Lv1		

To put it bluntly, they increased too much. After coming here, Ryouma finally remembered that thing about restraining himself. If it continues on like this, an effect on the ecosystem will probably be seen. Ryouma

worried about what to do regarding the overpopulating slimes.

Ryouma made the slimes stop splitting temporarily in order to keep the population in check, since if it's just to keep living, the slimes wouldn't need so much food. But if that was no good, then Ryouma also thought of taking responsibility and thinning out the population of slimes. Recently, though, there were some goblins that came from time to time to build a village, so Ryouma instead sent the slimes to annihilate those Goblins and have those serve as feeds.

The extermination of the goblins didn't only bring food, but also brought unexpected fortune. When fighting the goblins, the ones that didn't die received grave injuries. Ryouma found those slimes and hurriedly gathered them and used healing magic on them. There were slimes that couldn't make it, but there were also those that did.

Among those slimes that were healed, there were two that were only normal slimes. The next day, those slimes evolved to Heal Slimes and were able to use healing magic.

Heal slime, a new slime was born. At the occurrence of that new evolution, Ryouma's gamer obsession was once again lit. When he looked at the current situation, he was somehow able to endure. However, after those 3 days, Ryouma's gamer obsession was again relit.

"These slimes, I wonder if they could fuse? Like Do-kue…"

The instant when Ryouma, who was looking at the slimes that packed the house, muttered that. All of the slime's began to shiver, and all of the slimes that were of the same variant began to gather to one place. And in the blink of an eye, slimes that were of the same variant fused and became one.

Big Sticky Slime x 1			
Skills			
Strong Cohesive Liquid Lv5	Sticky Hardening Liquid Lv4	Sticky String Shot Lv3	Physical Attack Resist Lv1
Enlarge Lv2	Compress Lv4	Digest Lv3	Jump Lv2

Absorb Lv3			
Big Poison Slime x 1			
Skills			
Generate Poison Liquid Lv4	Generate Poison Liquid Lv4	Generate Poison Liquid Lv4	Physical Attack Resist Lv1
Enlarge Lv2	Compress Lv4	Digest Lv3	Jump Lv2
Absorb Lv3			
Big Acid Slime x 1			
Skills			
Generate Strong Acid Lv5	Acid Resist Lv4	Enlarge Lv2	Physical Attack Resist Lv1
Compress Lv4	Digest Lv4	Jump Lv2	Absorb Lv3
Huge Scavenger Slime x 1			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv5	Disease Resist Lv5	Eat Bad Food Skill Lv6	Cleaning Lv6

Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Release Stench Lv5	Deodorization Liquid Lv4
Deodorization Lv6	Enlarge Lv3	Return Nutrients Lv4	Physical Attack resist Lv2
Compress Lv5	Jump Lv2	Jump Lv2	Absorb Lv3

A panicked Ryouma told them to return, and immediately the slimes split, returning to their original numbers. The relieved Ryouma was excited, and repeated the experiment.

The results, one can fuse and split freely provided that the slimes numbers reach 100 for Big Slime, and 500 and up for huge slimes. Fusing below 100 slimes is not possible. When a hundred scavenger slimes fused its name became Big Slime, and at 500, Huge Slime.

As such by some stroke of luck, because of this fusion, it became possible to save on food and space.

It seems it’s possible to make as many big slime as one wants, as long as one is able to reach the 100 same variant slime condition. But one also needs to consider that the split ability disappears when they fuse. For slimes bigger than big slimes, each variety has their own respective assemblies.

Moreover, when needed the new skill, compress, allows the Slimes to shrink to a size just a little bit bigger than the size of the normal slimes. Although it’s a mystery where all that volume goes into, Ryouma didn’t mind.

In regards to food, if you think of it as one slime then the consumption increases several times. But when you consider that it is a lump of 100 slimes, then the fact that the consumption is able to be held down from 1/20 until 1/50 can be understood.

After having spent the days like that, all of the sudden 20 people from the nearby group of people came to visit Ryouma’s house.

“Hey~ Ryouma! Open up! It’s me! Hyuzu! I’m not an enemy!”

The one screaming in front of Ryouma’s house was the injured person from two weeks ago, Hyuzu. The entrance of the house was being blocked by a boulder, so in order to be heard he has been shouting in a

loud voice, only, Ryouma was actually in the thicket behind him.

“Now, I will open!”

“Ah! Oh, you were outside.”

“Hunt… went….”

“So that’s why. Then, today we came to give our thanks for before. Since we had plans to go around this area anyway. Relax, we won’t bring you harm.”

“...Understood.”

Ryouma and Rheinhart stepped up.

“Ryouma-kun, it’s been 2 weeks. Today, I once again give my gratitude. I brought with me some presents.”

“Thank you very much.”

“It’s just something to show my gratitude.”

“Dear, won’t you also introduce us?”

Behind Rheinhart stood a beautiful woman and a beautiful girl. There was also a man, who despite putting on years, as he stood straight gave off a majestic aura.

“Of course, let me introduce, my wife, my father, and my daughter.”

“I am Rheinbach Jamil, the previous head of the Ducal Family of Jamil. Sorry to suddenly intrude on you. Let’s get along.”

“I’m Elize Jamil, thank you for saving my husband and my subordinate.”

“Elialia Jamil. Nice to meet you.”

“… A pleasure to make your acquaintance… I am… Ryouma Takebayashi… You have gone on a long journey…

please make yourselves… comfortable… This is but my humble abode… but I will do my best to welcome

you…”

Although the sentences were disconnected, hearing such formal speech, the 4 members of the Ducal Family, the guards, and the maids were all

shocked. But Rheinbach quickly replied.

“That kind of formality is unnecessary, talk to us just as you did a while ago. Hospitality is also unnecessary, since the one who suddenly came were us.”

“Thank you very much. Saying that is… a great help to me.”

Having said that, Ryouma immediately used Earth Magic and opened the entrance to his house. At that moment he suddenly remembered.

“Now…slave monster… Slimes will gather… injury… won’t cause, so…”

“Were you hunting?”

“Yes… just came back… lots of people… so made to hide…”

“Sorry for unnecessarily scaring you.”

“It’s ok...”

“I’ve also informed the guards so it's ok now.”

“Thank you very much… Then…”

Giving his thanks, Ryouma gave the order to return through his mind. Immediately innumerable slimes came from the surrounding thickets and gathered.

The number was greater than 1000. As expected, I don’t think they expected these many. Although these slimes weren't enemies, the maids' and guards' faces still stiffened. In contrast to that, the 4 people of the ducal family, looked at the gathering slimes, deeply interested.

“Hou! I heard you tamed a lot of slimes, but I didn’t think it was to this extent!”

“Even though they’re slimes, it’s amazing you’re able to control this much.”

“This number… making just one listen should have been difficult, but...”

“What an amazing number… haven’t they increased a bit?”

“… After everyone went back home… they split…”

“Will they fit in the room?”

“After... It will be, alright…”

“It will be alright? What do you mean?”

As Rheinhart asked that, Ryouma ordered his slimes and made the slimes fuse right in front of their eyes. As he did that, aside from Elialia the three people opened their eyes wide and shrieked.

“Big Slime!?”

“It couldn’t possibly!?”

“No, this is definitely… you!? You were able to tame a Big Slime?”

“… is it weird?”

“Big slime, you see… It’s a magical beast that no one has ever been able to tame, you know?”

“Eh?”

“The Slave Monster Contract that Slave Magic Users use to tame high level variation races on and above the level of the Big Slime doesn’t work. Although there were people that attempted to, not even one has succeeded.”

“…Slave contract… meaningless… obviously…”

“What do you mean?”

“…Big slimes and up… is the gathering of many slimes… the Slave Monster contract’s condition… can’t be…

fulfilled… Slave Monster Contract… can only be used… on 1 monster… at a time… many at the same time…

impossible… when making the contract… accurately catching… 1 inside a 100… is impossible. Because you

can’t see more than one… so… Slave Monster Contract… has no effect… I made a contract with many slimes…

after gathering… was able to tame…”

Chapter 6

~Side Ryouma~

After answering their questions, the eyes of the four people in front of me have become frightening. I wonder if I did something bad.

"Wonderful"

Ha? Something wrong? What does she mean by wonderful?

"Ryouma, that's amazing! You've just uncovered one of slave magic's greatest mystery!"

"!?"

What's wrong with these people!? Their stare contains too much power! And they're too overbearing! Scary!

"Madam, Rheinbach-sama, please calm down. You are scaring Ryouma-sama."

"Aaaa! I must have scared you, I'm sorry."

"My bad, I just got a bit too excited…"

"It's… alright…"

"Let me explain the reason why these two are like this. The reason you gave about why a big slime can't be tamed is a mystery that many Slave Magic Users have been trying to figure out for a long time. While it's true that a big slime isn't very strong, it's, however, difficult to fight. So there were many people who tried to tame it in order to use it to detain people. Even until now there are those who try. But…"

"There hasn't been a single case where a big slime was successfully tamed. The foundation of Slave Magic, the Slave Monster Contract, having no effect was viewed as a problem by all the Slave Magic Users who failed. And because of the high pride of the Slave Magic Users, the reason behind the contract's impotence was researched for a long time. However, without being able to bring any results, the scale of the research has been largely shrunk.

Until this very day, there haven't been any results. But that reason that no one else could figure out in this world, was pinned down alone by one

person, you.”

Uwa… somehow this turned into something really amzing.

“Mu~ what a weak reaction. If I say this, I wonder if you’ll understand. The research, The Reason Why Big Slimes Can’t be Tamed, started around the time Slave Magic Users began propagating, which was around 300

years ago. There hasn’t been much results so regarding this case, the research institution has been, to put it nicely, leisurely. And this research that began 300 years ago without being uncovered by anyone, was uncovered by you!

Do you think I can possibly stay calm!?”

What should I do…?

“What should we do?”

“Register! You should register it at the Tamer Guild and publicize it!”

Aaaa~ so it was something like that… but, seeing these people’s reactions if I publicize it’ll be an uproar, seems troublesome… Oh, but I wonder if this is a good opportunity to leave the forest?

“The city, huh…?”

When those words unintentionally left his mouth, the four people and the servants waiting behind them, all reacted.

“Ah… I’m sorry. You didn’t like towns, right?”

“I won’t force you to register and publish it but this really is a big discovery. I hope you understand that.”

“Under, stood… ah… we’ve been talking, while standing… please enter, inside…”

“Now that you mention it, please excuse us for intruding.”

Since there are also things like beasts outside, it’s dangerous to talk while standing out for too long. While I invited everyone to go in, in order to keep watch and look after the horses, most of the guards seemed to have stayed outside. The ones that went inside were the 4 members of the Household of Jamil, the ones that came before, Jill-san, Zeff-san, Camil-san, Hyuzu-san, and the old butler along with the two maids. In order not to be impolite to the members of the Household of Jamil I brought out some black tea.

The truth is this black tea belonged to one of the bandits that attacked

before. There were several of the same thing, so it's probably stolen goods. I found this by coincidence when I looked for a spear for Hyuzu-san. Since I don't need money, and putting my hands on the belongings of the person I killed is kind of dicey, I guess I'd have just left it alone. And then I would evenutally end up forgetting about it. So it's good that I was able to quickly find out that there was tea.

First of all, some quality tea leaves, it doesn't seem like there's any problem with its expiry date so it should be fine.

Then the only problem left are the cups. I don't have cups for 11 people so I'll quickly make them with Earth Magic and then make the tea. The day before yesterday I found a beehive and found some honey. I also happened to find some stuff similar to lemon and ginger. Using those I made some sports club lemon style syrup and brought it back with me.

There's nothing else to substitute for sugar except for this, I wonder if it'll be ok…

"Sorry for making you… wait, this is, black tea."

"Ara, thank you very much."

"What a nice fragrance. Thank you I'll help myself."

"Fumu, I see you've used some good leaves."

"The bandits that came to attack… had a lot of things with them."

"I see… Hou, it's delicious."

"Indeed."

"The scent of the tea leaves are coming out quite well. If I may know, where did Ryouma-sama learn how to make tea?"

My previous life. Is not something I can actually say…

"Grandma liked tea very much."

Reason: Grandparents = All Purpose. The three gods thought up a really good excuse. If I made a lie by myself, I wonder if it would have been found out immediately. In my previous life I was often told that I was stupidly honest… although I don't think so. I don't know why but if it's just saying something that was decided ahead of time, then even if it's a lie I could say it smoothly. Moreover, according to the letter of the gods, the grandparents'

souls were called and have already given their permission. I'm really indebted to them.

“If you would like some, please… have some honey… as well.”

“Thank you, I’ll help myself then.”

“I’ll have some too, honey is quite luxurious and are hard for me to come by after all.”

“Wait, Hyuzu-san!”

“The day before yesterday… I only… took from the beehive… so Camil-san as well… please have some…”

“Eh, really? Then, just a little.”

“You’re not different from me either.”

At that, Elialia, was it? When the young lady drank tea, she noticed something.

“Ara? This honey, it’s not just honey, right? Did you put something in?”

Geh!? Were Jija (Ginger) and Ramon (Lemon-like) bad? The butler immediately went to check. Am I in danger?

“The juice of Ramon seems to be mixed, it’s refreshing and gives a delicious taste. However, it doesn’t seem to be only that.”

Whew! They didn’t think it was poison! I should answer honestly here, besides it’s not like I actually put poison.

“I added… the root of jija(ginger).”

“So this flavor was jija? I thought it was only a salty medicinal plant, but to think it could actually make such a taste.”

“…jija…can be used in cooking…meat, fish… can deal with the stench…”

“What a wonderful thing to learn. The next time I return to the residence I will try to let the chef know. My thanks, Ryouma-sama.”

“You’re welcome.”

“So Ryouma-san is not only an expert at Slime Research but also at cooking?”

“… It’s because I’ve been making it for a long time… in line with that… when I have interest… I end up

focusing… and researching… Right now I’m studying slimes… a lot… by the time I noticed it… slimes were

already numbered over 1000.”

“Ara ara, what an interesting person. If it’s fine with Ryouma-san won’t you lend me your strength?”

This Ojousama. What is she saying all the sudden.

“What do you mean?”

“Actually, just a few days ago I received permission from my elders to perform the Slave Monster Contract. So I’m going to tame a slime from this forest. As such, I want to borrow the power of the slime expert, Ryouma-san.”

“… Unnecessary, you know? ... to need help… to tame a slime…”

“No, while it may embarrassing. What slime is good or what is bad, I am unable to decide.”

There’s no good or bad slime though…

“…no difference… with normal slimes… if you must choose… choose what evolution you want… should choose

appropriate slime… if you want power… should choose different magical beast… not interested in raising for a long time… then there’s no need.. to take the time to choose… even then, are you still going to choose the slime?”

“Yes, since it’s my first slave monster I’ll treasure it forever.”

Uwaa… I’m being attacked by a pure smile… well, it looks like she’s going to treasure it, so why don’t I help her a bit…

Mn? Why did I think, “This kid will treasure it”? Even though I’ve never understood something like that… Am I, being tricked? Seduction? A mentally over 40 years old uncle like me is being… by this kid? I should stop thinking about this.

“Is it no good?”

It’s the request of a young woman of a Household of Jamil… refusing would be unsavory, right? Since I’d be uneasy if it were only lip service then, at the very least I should say it in a smooth way.

“… If you’re ok with me… please let me help you… only, right now only 3 types… can be chosen.”

“Why, are the other types no good?”

“One… evolution conditions are unsettled… one… doesn’t have feeds… the other one… requires a method that’s difficult for a woman… although…

ability wise… it is most recommended.”

“That slime’s evolution conditions, I wonder what kind of selection method it is.”

“Mother… I am talking right now. It’s preparation for my first contract so please don’t disturb me.”

“Oh come one, isn’t it fine? Slime conditions are something I haven’t heard about!”

“Sorry, mother is a first class Slave Magic User but, when the conversation turns to magical beasts, she becomes indiscriminate.”

“It’s ok… the conditions for slime evolution, is its meal. Depending on eating habits… the slime will evolve differently… if Sticky Slime, then green caterpillar… Poison Slime, poisonous plants… slimes have

preferences… that is the evolutionary path the slime is heading towards… if made to eat… something against preference… evolution will be slow… difference in ability will also come…”

“I understand, so that is the slime’s evolutionary condition.”

“If there is nutrition… evolution is easy. Give it meal… and the evolution will be fast. The selections are, poisonous plants, green caterpillar… washed bones of beasts… Respectively… Poison Slime, Sticky Slime, and Acid Slime.”

“The 3 variants Ryouma-san was recommending were which variations?”

“Cleaner Slime, Scavenger Slime, and Heal Slime…”

“I’ve never heard of those variations… Does mother know?”

“Well aside from the heal slimes, I haven’t heard of those at all.” [Rheinbach]-sama

“Me too.” - Rheinhart-sama

“I’m unaware, what kind of abilities do cleaner slimes and scavenger slimes possess? And what skills?” [Elize]

“The reason… I am recommending… is because those slimes possess… the skills… Cleaning and

Deodorization.”

“Cleaning and Deodorization? I’ve never heard of those skills.”

“Deodorization, I can still somewhat understand but, Cleaning is?”

"…Seeing for yourself… is faster… please wait…"

I went inside, took a handy cloth and coated it in the rabbit blood I've let, then took a cleaner slime with me back.

"Thank you for waiting… this is a Cleaner Slime. Please look over here…"

"A bloodstained cloth? What are you going to do with that?"

"This."

I gave an order to the nearby slime with my mind. The slime took the cloth I was holding, took it inside its body, and spun it around its nucleus. No matter how many times I see it, it's exactly like a washing machine.

And then after 10 seconds, the slime threw up the cloth, and then with its body stretched like tentacles took the cloth and passed it to me. I spread the cloth wide and showed it to them. When the four members of the

Household of Jamil saw that, they gave off a reaction as if they saw something strange. The maids and the butler's eyes, however, were sparkling.

"The blood disappeared, huh? And the color has also somewhat changed, did it dissolve?"

"Seems like it was sucked by the slime. Is this all?"

"No madam, it's not just that."

"Araune?"

At the wife of the duke's words, the maid interjected. From the looks of things she seems to know what Araune is thinking.

"Ryouma-sama, does that slime eat dirt?"

"That's exactly it."

"What do you mean?"

"From that cloth's raw material, I can see that it was not only blood but also a combination of many things that stained it. The current color the cloth is its original color. Talking about dirt, if one leaves it alone it will become difficult to remove. And the previous situation was a case where it was left alone. If one were to hand wash it, no matter how many hours you take, it won't end return to its original color just like what happened now. Because the dirt will already be stuck. In other words, the Cleaning skill so to speak, is able to remove the irremovable dirt.

Right?”

“That’s also true… but more specifically… it is a skill that removes only the dirt.”

I made the slime put my hand inside it.

“Wh–!?”

“This is nothing…”

A normal slime will try to digest everything it takes into its body. Which is why everyone freaked out because they thought my hand would dissolve. Everyone’s face stiffened. However, my hand didn’t dissolve and after five seconds I separated from the slime.”

“Is there nothing wrong?”

“Nothing but the dirt was dissolved… It’s a slime that won’t eat… humans and even the meat of monsters

naturally… unless you tell them to.”

“There was such a slime?”

“That was bad for the heart, please don’t scare us.”

Am I in trouble?

“My sincerest apologies… it a normal thing to me… and I really didn’t want to touch… it, this cloth.”

“True, it’s definitely hard to say it’s a clean cloth.”

“It used to be a goblin’s loin cloth.”

As I said that, the guards’ faces immediately became ugly, and the maids’ interest became stronger.

It seems in this world “The hardest thing to clean in the whole world is a goblin’s laundry” is a popular saying.

“If this slime is around… then it can clean no matter what the condition is… while traveling, you can’t wash with water, right?”

“Yes, aside from wiping the body it isn’t possible… Even though this is my first time going on a long trip, just not being able to enter the bath for a day has already made me feel unpleasant.”

“If you were to have this slime… then… the problem can be solved.”

At those words the ojousama looked at my face with amazing vigor.

Scary! Her eyes! And some other things too!

The madam along with two maids also seems to be staring.

"...clothes and body… dirt and stench… everything can be eaten… so."

"That! That slime! I want a Cleaner Slime!"

… This is bad! Why did I just throw her a sales pitch like a bad guy!? Moreover the hardest person to talk to! At the very least I should have pushed the Scavenger Slime!

"The selection method for this… is kind of…"

"No way! After being shown such an amazing slime, that's just too cruel!"

"Ryouma-sama, I, as a maid of a family that has been serving the Household of Jamil for generations, have also studied the basics of Slave Magic. If you may find it in your heart, please instruct me as well to the selection method of the Cleaner Slime."

"I also want to know~" –Elize

As they said this, they made a face that said they absolutely want to know…

"Ryouma-kun, it's better if you talk honestly, so as not to provoke this female battalion."

"It's… hard to say… to women…"

"Women can't be taught?"

"That's discrimination you know… I am sad…" - Elize

"Ojou-sama and the others want to know, so isn't it fine?"

Somehow in order to mediate the situation, Camil-san suggested something irresponsible. Taking that opportunity I stealthily took Camil-san, Jill-san, Zeff-san, and Hyuzu-san to a corner of the room and tried talking to them about the details of the selection method.

"…It's not that I don't understand why you don't want to say it."

"To think it was that kind of method…"

"It's definitely quite hard for a guy to say to a woman..."

"I think it'd also be hard for another girl to say this kind of stuff."

"Well… just let nature take its course."

The one who nonchalantly asserted that was Hyuzu-san. As he said that he turned around.

“Milday! Madam! I know the method! Incidentally, Araune as well!”

Declared Hyuzu-san to the female battalion.

What is he saying!? That guy, can he say it properly?

“Is that true!?”

“Yes, milady! The method is to wash your body! And then lure the slime by feeding it with the sweat of your body and the dirty water you used!”

He said––––!! That guy said it super straight!! Ah… He… He’s going to get endlessly beat up by that female battalion…

After that, when the female battalion calmed down Hyuzu-san talked to Rheinhart about the details of the conclusion they arrived to.

If you prepare and set up using just normal water and the water used to wash the body, a normal slime will come.

But for some reason slimes that can become Cleaner Slimes gather around sweat and dirty water. In order to safely become a Cleaner Slime, the slime will need to change its life of eating normal food to, without holding back, eat nothing but sweat, dirt, and water.

“To think that there were slimes that had such dispositions…”

“Sorry…”

“Um, Ryouma-san isn’t a fault, you know?”

“For women… to catch Cleaner Slimes… is difficult, I think.”

“Ryouma-san”

“?”

“I won’t give up… Cleaner Slime is fine.”

“Well then, we should ask some guards to…”

“That’s no good. Even if it’s just following another’s example, I will become a Slave Magic User from now on. I mustn’t rely on other people.”

“…for everything… to be done… by one person… isn’t necessarily a good thing… you know?”

“Even so, I want to take my first step by myself.”

"… the one who will decide… is ojousama."

"I will… I…~ I will do it! May I have some water?"

At those words everyone around us shed a tear. The ojousama put up with her face being completely red. Even though it's fine even if she doesn't work that hard… or rather what's up with this atmosphere, it's as if she just made some amazing decision… the thing one has to do… it's that, right?

In any case, I'd feel guilty if I just brought out some water, might as well try recommending the bath.

Although I normally use the Cleaner Slime, as a former Japanese there are times I want to submerge myself so I made a bathtub. I didn't think it would end up being used for something like this, though.

"I have, bathtub… please use"

"You have a bathtub? Thank you very much!"

Using water magic I filled the bathtub with water, and with fire magic I heated it up. After the temperature was at a good level I informed the ojousama that the bath was ready.

The ojousama gleefully went to the bath, while the two maids went to act as look outs and attendants for the bath.

I went and met up with the others.

"Ouch… those painful stares."

"You reap what you sow."

"As one would expect, there's no such thing."

Certainly that was lacking delicacy. Even I who was often called to be lacking delicacy in previous life, wasn't that bad. Shouldn't be, anyway.

"Ah, Ryouma-kun, welcome back"

"Madam… what should I…"

"It's fine, since the person herself has decided. And besides it's not like you said a lie, right?"

"Of course."

"Then it's fine. And besides I'm happy to see that child show such an earnest attitude as a Slave Magic User. If she just wanted to get a Cleaner Slime then it would have been enough for Ryouma-kun to cancel a

contract and give her one.”

… What did she just say?

“What did you–“

“I said it would have been fine if she just received one from Ryouma-kun. Did you perhaps not think of that?”

Ha, hahaha… Why wasn’t I able to think of something so obvious!

“Seriously…”

“Don’t mind, I thought it was adolescence. It was quite interesting. But I was really happy at my daughters resolve.”

“Is that so…”

Somehow, I’m tried…

After the ojousama got out of the bath, I drew the water. With me leading we got to a place that had relatively many slimes appearing. By some really good luck, a slime that chose the bath water immediately came out, we caught that one and went back home. And then in front of her parents’ eyes, she enacted her first contract.

Since it was already late, they ended up staying at my house. I prepared the supper with the maids, during that the guards shifted with a person from the Household of Jamil and everyone was able to enter the bath.

We grilled the meat the slimes were able to gather while the ojousama was fighting to catch her slime, along with the jija (ginger) I scraped off.

After that, the Household of Jamil was in a great mood and ask for seconds many times. The other people also generally enjoyed it. However, as a former Japanese it was kind of strange for me. Although I’ve gotten used to it, whether it’s salt or the rock salts from a cliff, you can’t have much of either. Moreover, minerals end up being mixed with it so unless you use alchemy and split and purify it, it’ll be bad for the body. If I didn’t have alchemy I probably wouldn’t have been able to seclude myself in the forest for 3 years. In the mean time I have enough to guarantee my daily life, but it’s not enough that I’m satisfied.

After supper we drank tea while talking, then all the sudden the duke’s wife said this.

“Ryouma-kun, have you decided what you will do from now on?”

“… Honestly, I’m at a loss… Should I migrate somewhere…?”

For starters, I've already finished the first stage of my research. And then, seeing my rooms filled up with my slave monsters, makes my head wince. I'm also unsatisfied with the food here, and have started to crave for some more seasonings.

… I guess I should probably start going around the world now… but what should I say?

"...Hey! You know this kid that has been isolated in the forest for a long time and doesn't trust other people? Well he just decided that he wants to go out and see the world!"

That just seems too unnatural… Oh, I know! let's go with the all purpose excuse and use my grandparents!

"… I was told by my grandparents… to live in town and be happy… but… I lived here instead… right now I have no complaint with my… life. But I've started to think lately… that my grandparents probably don't want… me to live… my life like this…"

"Ryouma-kun…"

The atmosphere of the room became serious. Rheinbach closed his eyes, and he looked like he was mulling over something. After a while, he said this.

"Then in that case… how about going outside the forest with us?"

"Eh?"

Eh, what did this person say? Today should be our first meeting, right?

"Even if we're like this, we're still a duke's household, to provide for one person's necessities is a simple matter to us. And also I think leaving an excellent Slave Magic User secluded deep in the forest is a waste. Although you hate the towns, won't you try going out of the forest?"

…Who would have thought that he would actually invite me? The people around me also doesn't seem to have any complaints, giving off a look that says, "Go ahead". Everyone being such a good person is making my heart ache, even though I only told a lie.

"Tomorrow, we are going to the town, Gimuru, and then go back home. Since you could also come back here, won't you come with us on this trip?"

"Trip…"

I am a person ignorant of society… although I've received the basic knowledge from the gods, I've never actually seen it with my own eyes…

I also have communication disorder.. and this people seem like good guys, it should be safer than going by myself, right? If I don't go now, I'll probably just drag it out and continue to be secluded for a few more months… so…

"Right… I think I'll end up causing you trouble but… may I come travel… together with you guys?"

"I see! So you're coming!"

"I myself… have begun thinking… of going out of the forest, so…"

"I see, I see. Then, you should prepare for the trip. We'll extend our tomorrow till afternoon tomorrow. Sorry for being in a hurry, but try to be ready until that time."

"Even until morning, is fine… I never had much things from the start. If I use my item box… I can take

everything with me."

"Ara, you can use item box at that age? That's amazing."

"I remembered grandma telling me… that it's convenient. I heard there were… a lot of people, that can use it…"

"No, no, even if it's a low level magic, it's a high level attribute you know? While, it's true that the number of people that can use item box, is high. But a person your age using it, is plenty amazing."

Really!? … they left out that kind of sensitive information? Or perhaps the information didn't take into consideration the age? If I keep doing careless things it will end up being bad… My luck might actually be good, to have someone supplement my common sense, is really fortunate…

"Ryouma-sama also seems to have talent for skills other than magic. I'll be looking forward to your future."

"True, even things aside from Slave Magic, if you want to study just say it, ok? I'll teach you."

"I look forward to studying with Ryouma-san."

"Thank you very much."

I gave my thanks and then begun tidying up. Since the ojousama, the maids, and the others were going to help me, I decided to go ahead and tidy up the most annoying room.

"Uwaa, what is this room."

“There are so many weapons and armor.”

“Are those pelts deep inside?”

“Storage room… weapon and armor of bandits… pelt of animals, nails, fangs… various things. Town… money

needed… if I search there should be some money here… as for the pelts they’ll be useful during the cold… as for what I can sell I don’t know… so please teach me.”

“The pelts are basically the easiest to sell, and the price will change depending on the material. The price is standard and will be decided by the variation of the monster, the size of the hide, and the quality. For example the black bear pelt Hyuzu used before to change his futon, if its quality was good then one sheet of it will go for around 1 small gold coin, because that’s a high class pelt, you see. Even if its quality was bad if sold, will allow commoners to live comfortably for 1 to 2 months.”

“Do you understand how money works? There are copper coins, silver coins, gold coins, and white gold coins.

Respectively, they each have their big, medium and small versions amounting to a total of 12 coins.”

“The value of one copper coin is one piece for one suit. 10 pieces of those makes up a medium copper coin for 10

suits. And a big copper coin makes up ten of those pieces for 100 coins. Generally, normal people use around 80

to 100 suits in a day.

Silver coins are a bit different, five big copper coins make a small silver coin for 500 suits, and 2 small silver coins make up a medium silver coin for 1000 suits. And then after that until the big gold coin, is 5 pieces, 2

pieces, 5 pieces, and 2 pieces, and so on.”

“Silver coins are generally used by commoners who have savings and merchants that have a small shop. For gold coins, it’s generally the people with big shops and nobles, and as for white gold coins they’re using by exceptional nobles and exchanges between country related matters. Like this the value becomes easy to use knowing the different social rankings. Commoners generally don’t have any gold coins and even if they do, it’s hard for them to use it.”

Black Bear Pelt is unexpectedly expensive, I wonder how many sheets I have…

“In other words… If the Black Bear Pelt I had… totaled to 8 sheets and their quality was bad, I could sell 1 for 1

big silver coin for 5000 suits and 8 of them for 40000 suits… and would be 4 small gold coins, right?”

As I said that, Camil and the others looked at me speechless.

Eh, did I do something? Or did I make a mistake? Are they amazed over calculations this simple?

“Did I make a mistake? … A commoner would spend around 100 suits a day, so 30 days for a month would make that 3000 suits, in 2 months, 6000 suits. Even if it’s cheap, if it’s around that, then since one big silver coin is 5000 suits, then 8 pieces would go for 40000 suits… it matches, right?”

“Y–Yeah. It matches with the daily expenditures of a commoner of 100 suits a day for 30 days in a month.”

“Wa–wait just a moment. You just calculated, right now, right? Ah… sorry, I don’t know anymore.”

“Are you an idiot!?”

“Is it bad to be stupid!? This asshole! Even if my head is bad I can at least write a letter!”

“Bouchan (little boy), to be able to calculate at that age, and even mentally, I have underestimated you.”

Eh!? That’s what you’re concerned about?

“Eh!”

“Ryouma-kun, to be able to calculate at that age is amazing, you know? If you can calculate at that age, then you can become a merchant. The calculation you did a while ago also seemed to be correct.”

“If you are able to calculate mentally that fast, then if you do jobs like being a merchant or working at the government, your ability will be essential.”

“Only learned from, my grandma… is it amazing?”

“A kid the age of bouchan that can mentally compute, rarely seen.”

“Even amongst adults there are many that can’t. The Hyuzu here can’t and I also can’t match Ryouma’s speed.”

Ehh… and so they were surprised?

“And also, you did pretty well to acquire so many black bear pelts all by yourself. It’s quite dangerous you know?

It’s more or less at the top of this forest’s food chain”

“Trap and poison arrow… if I don’t get close… it’s safe.”

“If you can do that much, then as a hunter you’re first class.”

Like this, while hearing the market price of the pelts, the weapons and other things, I activated the item box and from the black hole that came out I kept tossing into it. While some of the weapons and armor couldn’t be sold, the pelts unexpectedly had high value.

Also unexpectedly it seems that there was quite a bit of money hidden inside the belongings of the bandits. I found a sack containing roughly 40 pieces of medium silver coins and was shocked. The people around me that have also been examining the bandit’s belongings were shocked.

They asked me why I didn’t check the belongings, but it’s because I never really needed money, and food that had gone bad were mixed in there and after having the slimes clean it, without checking I threw it into the storage room. After I honestly answered, they were astounded. Not checking the belongings of the bandit after bringing them down was like working for free, or so they said.

From the looks of things, aside from bandits on the wanted list, even if you subjugate the bandits you won’t get much compensation. The gains don’t match with the risk that comes with killing bandits. Incidentally, a lot of bandits won’t get one compensation, but all of their belonging will at least belong to the one that subjugated them.

Otherwise no one will want to subjugate the bandits.

Like this we finished with the preparations in the storage room and then I went by myself, to the kitchen, the medicine room, and took the things I need into my item box.

… Or rather, it’s mostly food and medicine ingredients. After that, it’s mostly the things I got from the gods after coming to this world.

After this… hmm… Right, I should take the slimes, huh? I can’t just leave them alone, as I thought that I went to talk to Rheinbach.

“Rheinbach-sama.”

“What’s the matter, Ryouma-kun?”

“Can I bring my slimes… with me on the trip? Altogether there are 17 slimes.”

“Yes, there’s no problem. For a Slave Magic User to bring his own Slave Monster, there’s no problem with that at all”

“Besides the carriage has some allowance, so we can take some space.”

I see, that’s good.

“Thank you very much”

As I said that, a smile met me and said, “It’s fine”. Really, they’re such good people.

If think of a similar situation in Japan… if someone who was hitchhiking suddenly told you that they’re bringing with them 17 pets… yeah, at the very least I definitely wouldn’t let them ride. One or two maybe, but 17 is just too much. In the first place, I don’t have a license.

My gratitude to the duke's family just keeps on going… oh yeah, speaking of gratitude, there’s still the matter with the gods. Since I’m going to be out for a while, I might as well pay them a visit.

As I thought that, I went to the deepest part of the house, a room I made for the purpose of ascetic practices. Over there is only a room as wide as a square but from the entrance, you can see that the front wall is being constricted, over there lay the statue of the three gods who sent me to this world, that I made using earth magic.

Since the religion of this world doesn’t seem to prohibit idolatry, creating a god’s statue by yourself isn’t a sin.

There are also seems to be devout believers that pray at the statue of the church and at a small statue they bought from the church like role models and little by little sculpt every day. There also seems to be an area in the region that recommends that.

Knowing that, while practicing earth magic, I made a statue of the gods, as a sign of gratitude, and I put it in my training area. It feels like the home shrine of the dojo in my past life.

I would train in front of the gods, and pray to them. Though I say I prayed, I was really just talking to them normally. Since I met them once already. Today, I also thought of going to talk to them normally but in the case someone were to come it might be bad so I blocked the entrance with earth magic.

If a deeply religious person were to see me casually talking to the gods they probably wouldn’t forgive me. If not, then they might think I’m a dangerous kid that talks to stone statues. I sat cross legged in front of the stone statue, after meditating for a while, I opened my eyes and I

spoke.

“Today also seems to have ended peacefully. But since you're god, I’m sure you know, I’m going away for a while with the people who visited today. It seems we are going to the town of Gimuru. It’s the long awaited first journey since I’ve gone to this world. Like this I’ll finally be able to keep the promise of going to the church that I made. Only, I don’t know when I’ll be able to come back so I’m taking everything with me… in the case that I can’t come back I’ll make a new statue at a different place. Well then, I’ll see you guys later.”

As I finished saying that, I stood up, opened the entrance and left the training place.

After that, I gave an order to the cleaner and scavenger slimes, and made them clean the storage room and the empty rooms.

After that since I was asked by the butler if the guards could have a place to rest, I lent them a comfortable empty room. As expected since it had a proper wall and was like a safe nest, they were grateful and gave me their thanks.

After all the preparations were done, I also went to my room, and retired for the day.

Chapter 7

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The next day…

~ Side Ryouma ~

Just as scheduled I left the forest around two hours ago with the duke's family. I heard there was a carriage and was wondering where it was, but as it turns out it was inside the butler's, Sebasu-san, space magic, Dimension Home.

Apparently Sebasu-san uses space magic. Moreover, since I can't use Dimension Home yet I didn't know, but apparently you can even put a carriage inside.

As I was thinking these things, Sebasu-san brought out 4 carriages. What a ridiculous amount of space this magic has.

As I was surprised, the ojousama, feeling a sense of success, smiled mischievously.

"That is only the carriage that we are going to ride on, you know? The ones for our belongings are still different.

There's way more inside Sebasu's Dimension Home, you know?"

There's still more!?

While doing a tsukkomi inside his head, his hand was pulled by the madam and made to ride the same carriage as the four people of the Household of Jamil.

The number of people riding the carriage was 6. The duke's family + me = 5 people, the other person riding with us was Sebasu-san.

Speaking of which, the slimes were made to ride on the quasi-roof rack attached at the roof of the carriage. From what I've heard it was originally a place to put food and drinks like wine and snacks.

We went through all that trouble to ride at the same carriage so I figured I might as well try asking Sebasu-san.

But other than space magic it seems Sebasu-san can't use any except for water magic. From what I've heard though, if one is able to use either

attribute up to high level magic, then even in the country that person can be considered to be a distinguished magician.

By some possibility, I thought that he might be able to use high level space magic. Thinking that, I tried asking him.

“Can you use the high level magic, Another World?”

When I asked that, Sebasu-san looked at me with an expression of admiration.

“It’s amazing that you’re in the knowledge of such magic.”

“The slave monsters… get scared by the people of the village easily… so I asked grandma… if I could substitute conjuration techniques for space magic… but she said for large scale… monsters, it won’t work unless… I used Another World.”

“Substituting conjure and recall with space magic? Is that possible, Sebasu?”

“Theoretically, yes. Dimension Home is a magic that bends space and creates a safe room where one can rest, so it’s possible for magical beasts to survive inside. Another World is the same. However, I have never thought of actually using it to substitute for conjuring and recalling. While it’s a method that’s impossible for slave magic users that can’t use space on and above the middle level, but this method can give a sense of security regarding one’s surrounding on the same level as conjuration.”

“Hou, that is amazing. The interactions may change depending on the place but it’s a great idea since there are many that look down on slave magic users. If it can reduce that common knowledge even a little, then it’s a proposal worthy of being investigated.”

Eh, no one actually thought of this? Oh yeah, now that I think about it the gods also discussed it together at first, so this is probably something no one has ever thought of before.

“Regarding Ryouma-sama’s question, I am unable to use the magic, Another World. Personally though, it’s not a magic I would choose. Another World is space magic’s most difficult magic. It is the goal of every space magician because as the highest peak, it will garner one much respect… however, that’s all there is to it.”

“What do you mean?”

“Actually, Another World is a magic that’s very hard to use freely. Before one can use Another World, the three stages of the process are essential. The first stage involves the creation of a vast space by means of space

magic.

The size of Another World will be dictated by this stage. . And that stage is dependent on the volume of magic power that the user has."

"… If the magic power is plenty, it will be wide… if little, narrow… right?"

"Precisely. To add to that, the practitioner that attempts the first stage, as a result of using his magic power with the sole intent to bring it out, ends up totally exhausted. In the worst case, that person may even faint and stay asleep for a few days. Moreover, if one fails the first stage, one will have to start all over again from the start."

All or nothing, huh?

"After one succeeds with the first stage, it is time to move to the second stage. The second stage is the creation of a gate to connect the place you are in with the space you created successfully. This will also consume a huge amount of magic power, if one fails, then one will need to start all over again.

The stages until the second are all preparations. With the third stage, the gate will open and it will be possible to use it to freely go in and out. However, opening or closing the gate just once will consume anything from 5000 to 10000 magic power. This 10000, is a quantification of the value of magic power.

Generally, in order to become a royal court magician that will serve the royal palace, at the very minimum one needs to have a magic power of 10000. But even amongst those that possess amazing amounts of magic power, if they use the magic just once, they will lose magic power to the point where they collapse. It's definitely not something that can be abused.

To make matters worse, after going through all that pain to prepare so much space, there is still the question of what will you put inside that, that made you do something that's so inconvenient."

"What do you mean? If it's wide, then it's possible to put more stuff in, right?"

"Yes, of course. However, if it's just to keep things, such as your usual traveling goods and furniture, then the mid-level, Dimension Home, should be enough. If it can't be anything but Another World, then it has to be around the size of a royal palace or a fortress. In that case, the question turns to, how are you going to put that thing in there? In the end, it just ends up being a waste of magic without being able to serve any practical purpose."

“Oh, is that so…”

That’s quite a demerit there… Well, the quality can be taken into account, but for the meantime, the mid-level, Dimension Home, should be fine. My slave monster is only a slime too, so…

While thinking of those things, Sebasu-san began to follow up.

“Although using the magic may be difficult, there are times when it can be used. The likes of the Dragon and other large scale beasts have variations of which, whose sizes reach around those of the size of castles. If you are able to tame those kind of monsters, then it may be a valid suggestion to use that magic as a waiting room.”

“I see… thank you very much.”

“Please don’t mind. If it’s something like this, please ask me whenever you like.”

At that, Elize inquired Ryouma.

“Now that you mention it, what magic attributes can Ryouma-kun use? I’ve heard of earth and space magic but it looks like you heated the bath with magic, so you can also use fire and water, right?”

“Grandma said… that it’s all attribute.”

“All attribute, huh? That’s pretty rare. Is there some specific attribute you’re leaning towards to?”

“Mainly, earth and space… others include stuff like fire and water… mainly centered around things I use in day to day life… kind of all around.”

“Fumu… to add to that, you also use slave magic and barrier magic, right? People who have all attributes have a tendency to become jacks of all trade and masters of none, so be careful, okay?”

“I understand”

Come to think of it, the gods said the same thing in the letter, that warning.

“…Did I say something strange?”

“Eh?”

“Ryouma-kun, just now you smiled a little bit, you know?”

Ah, it showed on my face…

“In the past, grandma said the same thing… since I also tried my hand

at… alchemy and healing magic.”

“I see, I thought I said something strange.”

“But still, alchemy, huh? You seem to have an interest for strange things…” Commented, Rheinbach-sama.

Which reminds me, there doesn’t seem to be much information regarding alchemy. I should try asking her about that.

“Is it rare?”

“You won’t find many alchemists nowadays. In the past there were many who tried to swindle others by saying they could create things like gold. But because of those kinds of people, the numbers of alchemists were largely reduced. Though they say that some hundred years ago there was a man who was called the Alchemy King and made a large amount of profit. After that, however, like poof, with no inventions or discoveries it just disappeared.”

At Rheinbach-sama’s response, Sebasu-san continued.

“One theory says that what the Alchemy King created was the model of Alchemy. After that, there were people that tried to follow in the footsteps of the Alchemy King seeking profit, and what came out of that is the Alchemy that has been passed down today. It appears, however, that, those techniques were inferior to the Alchemy King’s.

Today, it has fallen to simply being used as an excuse for fraud. With no one left to study Alchemy, right now, it’s no different from a candle before the winds.”

“Alchemists have a secretive and ominous image. Other magic guilds also have some parts they are secretive about, but the alchemists are too secretive” or so, Elize-san warned.

Doesn’t seem like it has a good image, huh? Well… it seems like the story is quite similar to the alchemists that used to live back in Earth.

“Would it be better… if I don’t say I… study Alchemy?”

“That’s right, it would be better that way” confirmed, Rheinbach-sama.

“Understood”

As I replied, the ojousama came over to ask me something.

“Ryouma-san, what do alchemists actually do?”

What should I say…

“I don’t know any other Alchemists… so I don’t know… but what I’ve been able to do so far… is to refine rock salt.”

At that, Rheinbach-sama curiously asked, “Rock salt? That rock salt which can be collected nearby, but it contains poison and can’t be eaten and as such has no value? Is there something you can do with that?”

“That rock salt… inside the earth, is mixed with a lot of minerals… that ends up becoming poison to a human’s body… but if one were to remove those minerals, the salt can be eaten… what I did was… separating the minerals from the rock salt and removing the poison… like this it can be made consumable.”

Rheinbach-sama was astounded.

“You can do something like that!?”

“I can. The food we had back in my house… the salt I used there all… came from the cliff where rock salt can be collected from…”

“Amazing! If that’s possible then if one were to sell it as goods… ah, no. No good. The fact that the nearby rock salt can’t be eaten is something that has been well-known for some years now. Even if one sells it, no one will buy.”

“Is that so?”

“Yeah, in the past, there were some adventurers that went deep into the forest and found that cliff of rock salt.

Without reporting it to anyone, gathered it, lied about where it came from, and sold it in large scales. Hunting and collecting is freely allowed except for some selected areas. However, there are some greedy nobles who would keep it all for themselves if it is known that there is a source of rock salt in their region. They didn’t want that so they kept quiet and tried to make a profit out of it and lied about where it came from. From the rock salts that were sold, a lot of people became sick, and in the end the adventurers were caught and executed.”

I guess even in this world there’s labeling fraud.

“From that cliff… it’s not possible to take rock salts more than a meagre amount… can’t respond to high

demand… if distributed to the market… would probably lose out in competition… against salt that can be taken safely in vast amounts.. If it’s just for the Household of Jamil and the nearby village then… I think it could hold…”

“I see… that’s unfortunate”

While we talked, the carriage stopped from time to time to rest, and continued onwards. And when dusk came, a voice came from the coachman.

“We can now see the town of Kereban, we will be arriving in a short while.”

Looks like we’ve arrived at the first stopover. I thought I would surely have to sleep outside tonight but… Mn?

Wait a moment? I, don’t have any identification…

“Um…”

“Is there something the matter?”

Inquired the butler, quickly.

“I… identification… I don’t have… is that ok….?”

Calm down! It’s gotten better already since two weeks ago, and yet! Just being a little unsettled, I’m back to this broken speech…

“Please rest assured, a person without identification will be given a temporary ID.”

Oh, well that’s a relief… I still want to do something about it soon… this...

As I was thinking that I let out a sigh, making the madam worry for me.

“Are you alright? There’s no need for worry, you know? Because we’ll protect you no matter what comes. The town isn’t a scary place.”

“Ah…”

She seems to have misunderstood. I should make it clear.

“Right now, is different. Not about, the town.”

“Really? Then, what’s the matter?”

“The truth is… language. Weird, right? The way… I talk… now.”

“… Well, certainly…”

“I haven’t talked to anyone… in 3 years… 2 weeks ago... when Rheinhart-san came… I was surprised when the words wouldn’t come out properly… two weeks… since then… having talked with the slime a bit it came back a little… but… still.. No good… it’s weird… so I need to–“

What!? Madam!? Why am I being hugged!?

“It’s alright! Ryouma-kun! We’ll fix it, slowly. *sniff… you’re not alone anymore.”

Crying!? …wait, it’s not just the madam but even the ojousama’s and the guy’s eyes seem to be watered… why…

ah, I see… though this is a fact, when looked at from the perspective of an onlooker, I must look like a really lonely person. Not having been able to talk with a person face to face for 3 years, I lost my ability to talk, and even doing something like talking with slimes to practice talking…

“I’m really ok! Because the one who… decided to live in the forest… was myself.”

After that for a while, I kept telling them that I was alright and was just feeling a little down, to no effect. Until we reached the gate, I was being hugged by the madam.

After that, Sebasu-san and Rheinhart-san went outside and talked with the gate keeper for a bit. It seems they were talking about my temporary identification.

I was brought to the station along with the madam. Although, actually, the only one who was called was me, but the madam said she was worried… and was quite pushy… The guide and the person in front of me are also

shaking palely. I’m sorry, people I don’t know, for getting you mixed up with this.

“Th-th-th-th-then, p-p-please t-t-touch th-this cry-crystal.”

This person is stuttering too much. Although I also talk strangely when it comes to people, but…

“Yes.”

I obediently touched the crystal. As I did that a blue light illuminated, the face of the people in front of me was stricken shocked, and they kept looking back at forth between me and the crystal.

“Y, you, come with me inside for a little.”

Did something happen? From what I know, a blue light should mean innocence… Sebasu-san and the madam that was with me interrupted.

“Is there something amiss?”

Inquired the butler, as the madam followed up.

“The light was blue, right? There shouldn’t be any problem but…”

“Ce-ce-certainly, the light was blue! However, rewards and punishments! The reward money fo-fo-for the

recorded subjugation of a bandit. W-w-want to confirm and must give the reward!”

Hearing that, the madam calmed down, and Sebasu-san understood. However, the confirmation and the reward money needs to be done before the two’s eyes.

“Th-then, I need to know. Boy, at that age you have felled a bandit, yes?”

“Yes.”

“According to the information projected by the crystal, you have subjugated The Red Spear, Melzen. Is this true?”

Nope, I don’t know. Who is that guy?

“Who is that? I don’t know… such a person.”

“It’s a man that wields a completely red spear and armor, can you remember?”

Hearing that, certainly, there was a guy like that. If I remember correctly, his spear was pretty good, so I put it in my item box immediately.

“Yes. I have the spear in my item box… can that serve as proof?”

“If you have, then please show me”

Having been told that, I took the spear from my item box and passed it to the guy in front of me. The man examined the spear and wielded it. The instant I felt magic power flow into the spear, the spearhead began to burst into flames.

What the heck!? That spear had that kind of ability… can I do that too? Right, I'll have to try that out next time.

“It's indisputable. This is definitely the Red Spear, which is a magic weapon that can produce flames. It’s the spear of The Red Spear, Melzen. I’ll prepare the reward now.”

The man gave an order to the knights that brought us here and the knights hurriedly galloped. Having sent them, the man spoke to me.

“However… you did pretty well to actually subjugate Melzen. That man

has managed to flee from knights and adventurers, time and time again. If you didn't confront him directly, do you mind telling me how you managed to subdue him?"

Even if you tell me that… I didn't do anything amazing…

"Was attacked by bandits… after they were defeated, before they died… said they were betrayed by their

comrade, so I looked around… and saw them merry making by the cave."

"So you attacked them there."

"No. I am a Slave Magic User… I sent a poison slime… to go inside a wine barrel."

"Alright, I think I understand. I give you my thanks."

Around that time, the soldiers arrived, bringing with them the reward money. I received the temporary ID and the reward money and put it in my item box, and then we left the station. It seems the guards of the Household of Jamil were ordered to go ahead to the lodging, and wasn't there when we got outside. From here on we have to go by foot until our lodging. It seems, it's to show the ojousama around the town.

Incidentally, the reward for Merzan and his group was 700 small gold coins. 700 coins… I suddenly ended up being rich. Hmm, what should I do… Because of how I lived the past 3 years, I have no idea how to use this money. Well for the meantime, I should give my thanks to the people that took me with them.

"Everyone, thank you very much."

"Its fine~ you don't have to hold back."

"But still, to think you were actually able to bring down that Melzen."

"Rather than that, let's hurry and get to town!"

"Hey! Elialia, calm down!"

"It can't be helped since this is my first time in a big town."

"Really?"

"Yep, I should have also said it yesterday. This is my first time going away from home. And this is Jamil Region's biggest commercial town. There are barely any places that have more people than here!"

"I see."

While it’s true that there are a lot of people, as someone who knows Japan, in my opinion the people are rather few. Compared to the station and the crowded trains, there’s just far too few. Speaking of which this is the first time I've gone to town in this world, but it seems this world’s town hasn’t really touched me much. The old fashioned buildings are a bit unusual, but it’s not something to make a fuss of. Rather, this ojousama is just too hyped.

Now, while it’s not to the extent of people going back and forth like water, even then in its own way, the ojousama can be swept away by the crowd. I understand everything about walking around in a town you don’t understand and I know if this keeps on, it’ll be dangerous, so I hurriedly went after the ojousama.

“Ojousama, over here.”

“Th–thank you very much. There’s a lot of people, it seems like someone just might bump me.”

It seems something caught this ojosama’s eyes and ended up stopping in this weird place… even in the middle of the road without a hint of concern for others.

It’s precisely because of that obvious lack of knowledge about the real world that a bunch of annoying people came.

From the back, a girl walked in a trajectory that was obviously in line with the intention of bumping against the ojousama, in order not to allow her to get bumped in to, I pulled her shoulder.

“It’s dangerous”

“… che..”

The girl, having failed to bump into the ojousama, glanced at me, who pulled the shoulder of the ojousama, and clicked her tongue before leaving. So, I guess she really was planning to pick pocket.

“Ara, thank you very much? Ara? What is that?”

Again… there’s another person walking towards here from the direction of the alley. Before allowing the

ojousama to reach the alley, I caught her and pulled her aside like I was hugging her.

“It’s dangerous to rush out.”

“Eh!?”

“Uwah!?”

Because I pulled the ojousama aside, the man that missed his timing fell out from the alley.

“There are people coming out… of the alley. Please be careful.”

“Th–thank you very much…”

After speaking to the ojousama, I spoke to the man.

“Are you alright…? You're not hurt, are you?”

“Th’ heck is this bra–!?“

As I spoke to the man, he tried to grab the nape of my neck. But I sprung that hand up with my left hand and grabbed it at the same time, I held the left arm behind his elbow, and in a way that won’t be seen by the ojousama, I twisted his arm and his posture broke. The man was shaking as he was about to fall, he stopped talking and before completely falling I supported him, as our gazes met once again, I spoke again.

“There are no injuries, right?”

“Of–of course, sorry kid. Thanks for lending me a hand.”

“Please be careful.”

Seriously, don’t suddenly pick a fight with a kid just because you failed… although I’m actually an uncle deep inside. Recently I’ve started to become confused regarding whether I should consider myself a kid or an uncle.

“Ryouma-san! Let’s try going over there!”

You still want to go! Or rather, how long are the criminals gonna keep on coming!!

After that, for a while, I had to go through pains protecting the ojousama from hoodlums who attempted to either pickpocket, extort, or kidnap. For some reason even though the Household of Jamil could, at any time, prepare a way to deal with this, it seems they’ve left it to me… or rather, this town’s public order is too horrible …

Chapter 8

Ryouma went with the flow and acted as the ojousama's escort. They kept on like this, on their way to the lodging until Sebasu came to call the ojousama. Right now they were in the lobby confirming their reservation.

"Owwwwww."

"Are you alright, Ojousama?"

"Yes, I'm ok. It's just that I've been running all over, so now my feet hurt. Plus, my butt hurts because of the carriage. How about you? Is Ryouma-san ok?"

"No problem."

There's an effect of reduction to the pain experienced by those who possess the Pain Resistance Skill. If it's only pain at the level of a shaking carriage, then nothing would change for Ryouma who possesses Lv8 Pain

Resistance.

"It's like that at the start, Ojousama."

"Araune."

"Once you've ridden several times you'll eventually get used to it. By the way, it would seem Ryouma-sama seems to be fine, does Ryouma-sama have experience riding carriages?"

"This is… the first."

"Is that so? Ryouma-sama seems fine, so I thought Ryouma-sama would certainly have experience riding

carriages."

"I've never ridden… although I do have experience running side by side… while pulling."

Actually during Ryouma's time as a student, he would sometimes pull rickshaws and run side by side with a horse as a part of his running routine. He would also take part time jobs pulling rickshaws. As he reminisced those days, the words came out of his mouth, but Elialia and Araune who didn't know those things, misunderstood and

thought Ryouma was abused and used as a substitute for a horse.

Because of that the conversation stopped and the atmosphere somehow became gloomy. Ryouma, however, was

unaware that his thoughtless remark was the cause, so he couldn't help but be baffled, when Araune's and Elialia's expressions suddenly showed grief. Unfortunately though, the Ryouma who has been stricken with stranger anxiety for over 40 years, could not possibly have been in possession of the conversation skills to break this deadlock. In the end, they passed the time without talking.

The one who broke that dead lock was the guard and the Rheinhart who came back to talk about the plans for tomorrow.

"Thanks for you effort for today. Elialia, we're not sleeping outside today so go get some good rest."

"Yes, father."

"And… Ryouma. Unfortuantely, we weren't able to get you the same room as us, my apologies. There's a room for the servants of the guests, and so I was hoping you could stay there."

"It's enough."

"It's a big room, but the one handling the procedures is Sebasu so you should be able to get the same room as Zeff and the boys. Even if it's just a little, knowing the people you're with, is better, right?"

"Yes, thank you."

After giving his thanks, they all went to their respective rooms. Ryouma with Sebasu, who had just finished the procedures, and the ojousama with her two parents.

————————————————

~Room of the Household of Jamil~

The four members of the Household of Jamil were making themselves comfortable, when Rheinhart asked Elialia a question.

"Elia, what were you talking with Ryouma about? The atmosphere was a little weird…"

Hearing those words, Elialia's body shook, startled.

"A–actually, I touched on Ryouma-san's past a little…"

"Oh really?"

“Yes. Since my butt was hurting and Ryouma seemed to be fine so, I thought he was used to riding horses but…

umm… apparently today was his first time riding horses. He said, he’s never ridden horses before but he has pulled carriages while running lined up with a horse.”

“I get it, but he didn’t seem to mind when I saw him. After that he was also normal. So I think it would be best if Elia also doesn’t mind it too much”

Having said that, the madam followed up.

“Relax, just relax. Don’t just pull Ryouma all over the place until you reach the lodging, but also try to connect with him with that level of cheerfulness.”

“Y–Yes, Now that I think about it… I was really too excited.”

“That’s right, although just a little bit, it was improper.”

“*sniff*”

“”Ho, ho. being lively is a good thing. Elia is still a kid, so if it’s something like that, you can still call it, charming. But, you can’t be careless. That kind of behavior is like asking hoodlums to come attack you, you know? You need to take care of yourself, ok?”

“Yes…”

“Then, after taking a bath go to sleep, since we’re leaving tomorrow. And we’ll also be camping, ok?”

“I got it, good night, mother, father, grandfather.”

As Elialia said that, she left the room to take a bath. When the three confirmed they were the only ones there, they changed the conversation.

“So… regarding Ryouma-kun, what do you think?” Asked, the madam.

“Although I told Elia not to mind, but the truth is I, myself, have a lot of things I’m bothered about.”

“Well… he’s not a bad kid”

“I also have don’t have any objections in regards to that. But, exactly what kind of life did he live to turn out that way? Although he said he killed the bandits by sending a Poison Slime, I don’t think it’s just that. I think, he himself is just as strong. While he was being dragged around by Elia, he nonchalantly protected her, you know?”

Said Rheinbach, quite enthusiastically.

“But, the reaction he had when we came to this town was, as expected, really unfavorable.”

“That’s right. While I won’t ask him to be on Elia’s level, but, I think it’s better for kids to be a little more excited.” Agreed the madam.

“Without being surprised at the number of people and the size of the town, he looked as if he was looking at a stone on the side of the road.”

Rheinbach’s opinions weren’t wrong but, his idea of big varied largely as opposed to Ryouma’s.

It’s true that Ryouma looked at the crowd of people like he was looking at a stone by the road, but that is simply the fault of being someone who lived in Tokyo, Japan, a high populated area, which allowed him to see countless people every day. Having already seen a higher population than the one is this town, and seeing such crowds on a day-to-day basis, seeing something on this level just isn’t worth the merit, so, of course, he wouldn’t be surprised.

Therefore, he looked on with eyes that looked like he was looking at a piece of stone by the road. But, to the three people who did not know that, his eyes just looked dead to them.

“To see a prospective young person to have those kind of eyes, what a tragedy.” Muttered Rheinbach.

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~Servant Room~

Having been brought by Sebasu, they arrived at the room they will be staying in for the day.

“Excuse me.”

“Sorry for intruding.”

As they entered while giving their greetings, the ones in there were Jill, Zeff, Camil, and Hyuzu.

“Hey, you’ve come!”

“You’ve finally come.”

“It’s only one night, but let’s get along.”

“The bed at the end over there is empty.”

“Let’s get along.”

“Oh yeah, by the way, what do you normally do?”

“?”

“For us who live in the town, we eat dinner and then go out to drink, but you live in the forest, right?”

“Yeah… basically I research slimes… and practice magic. After that, I train my body.”

“… only that?”

“Yes.”

“Isn’t it boring?”

“Magic and slime research… is fun.”

“For research to be fun, looks like Ryouma has the disposition for a scholar.”

“For me, that’s just impossible.”

“By the way, Ryouma-sama, from time to time Ryouma-sama seems to be knowledgeable and use courteous

words, did Ryouma-sama study somewhere?”

“I learned them from my grandmother. Studying and etiquette… otherwise will be problematic.”

“Ryouma-sama’s grandmother must have been an amazing person.”

“She’s a person who can do anything except for matters related to fighting with weapons.”

“Ho–, then what kind of person was your grandpa?”

“The opposite of my grandma… a person who can’t do anything except fight with weapons. But, he was

exceptionally skilled at handling weapons. The weapons he made… were first class. I can’t win… not in battle, or in smithing.”

“Eh, you can smith?”

“Since I helped out… the foundations are ok. But since I didn’t learn properly… and I haven’t been able to, for the past 3 years. Even if I do it now, I can’t make anything except for something dull.”

“True, if it’s in the forest, you probably won’t be able to get either ingredients or tools.”

“Well you’ve gone through all that trouble to get out of the forest so you should buy what you need. But more than that, isn’t there something you want to do? You can take a stroll outside until supper, you know?”

At that, Ryouma said, “Then in that case, where is the church?”

“Church? Unfortunately, the church is closed at this time.”

“Although this town is prosperous, but because of the bad public order, the gates are closed early. In this town, there are two churches, the Church of Genesis, and the Church of the God of Light. Which one do you follow?”

“The Church of Genesis.”

“Then in that case, it’s too bad but, you can’t enter the church today. If it’s the Church of the God of Light then if you bring out a big donation then they’ll let you in but…”

“Is that so?”

“Although the scale of the Church of the God of Light is big, in proportion to that, the inside is just as rotten.

There’s plenty of degenerate priests there that would do anything depending on your donation.”

“There are people inside that believe in god, but priests and deacons that don’t believe make up a big part of the congregation. It’s because the ones that eye the donation income, all end up there. Contrary to that, the Church of Genesis has plenty of pious priests.”

“Because there isn’t a huge difference in the dogma even if you worship a different god. There’s a lot of people who enter the faith based on the personality of the believers, or the scale of the church.”

“I didn’t know… thank you very much”

“Something like this, I don’t mind. But being asked where you want to go, to immediately want to go to church, you’re quite a pious believer, huh?”

“Really?”

“For most people going to the church once a week is good. There are also people who will only go once a month.

In this way, I am also a follower of the Church of Genesis but, I don't think I go even once a month. I'm fairly close to being irreligion since I can't go to the church until reach the destination of a trip or a town somewhere."

"Ryouma-kun, did you go to the church frequently before you went to the forest?"

"Ever since I was born I haven't even been able to go once…. But… I pray at the stone statue in my house. …

And I also made a stone statue inside the house using Earth Magic and prayed there."

"Then in that case how about buying some building stones and making a statue? This lodging is also high class, and people who sometimes carve statues every night are also welcomed, so they should have stones for the sake of making those kinds of statues."

Being told by Sebasu that, Ryouma bought 3 large bricks of stones. However, the stones Ryouma bought were sold by a high class lodging, so the stones he got were also high class, 3 pieces went for 1 small gold coin and were quite expensive.

After that the stone was whittled off with Earth Magic and right after, the exquisiteness of the created image caused Camil to make a fuss, and Sebasu gave me a seal of approval, saying I could make a living from making statutes.

By the way, the reason behind the exquisiteness of the sculpture was because Ryouma had already once met the gods, so the image was built properly. Ryouma also possessed the Magic Manipulation Skill which allowed him to precisely manage his Earth Magic. And also in his past life, Ryouma made figures both as a hobby and for profits, so he was quite used with modelling things like this.

While various things happened, the 3 stone statues were made, and by the time Ryouma prayed it was already time for supper. They finished their meal, and right after they quickly retired to bed to prepare for tomorrow.

Chapter 9

The Next Day.

~Side Ryouma~

Although in the end I wasn't able to go to the church in the town of Kereban, since there also seemed to be a church in our destination, Gimuru, I figured it would be fine to go to the church there, instead. Besides I also have that stone statue with me.

Like this, we planned to go there on our carriage leisurely, but…

"It's a little cold…"

"It's because of the rain."

"It's rare to have this kind of downpour at a season like this though."

"Guess our luck was bad, Elialia."

Looks like we met with an unexpected downpour. It's been quite some time since I've met with this kind of bad luck. Ever since I came to this world, compared to my time on Earth, nothing has caused me to think I have bad luck. Well, since I'm inside the carriage, if it's only on the level of heavy rain, then maybe my luck here is still better.

Ah, the Ojousama is shaking. If I'm correct I should have that with me…

I brought out one coat made out of pelt from my item box. There's fur within the inner part of the coat, and a cloth affixed on the outer part. Glancing at it, it may seem like a coat, but, the cloth outside has the Sticky Slime's sticky liquid varnished dry on it.

With this treatment, the sticky liquid will repel the water, turning it into something like a raincoat. Once, by chance, I accidentally touched the dried sticky liquid and noticed that it was quite sleek. So I tried it out, and it was a great success. Thanks to this, hunting under the rain became quite easy~

"Ojousama, please use, this. It may not look good… but it's very warm."

"Thank you very much, Ryouma-san. I'll borrow it, then."

It's good that the Ojousama took it, but, it seems she thought she needs to turn it inside out.

“Don’t turn it inside out. I treated the outside a little bit so unless you wear it like that, there’s no meaning…

although there might be not much meaning, since we’re inside the carriage.”

“Ara, is that how it is?”

Curious, Sebasu-san touched the coat, and asked.

“Exactly what kind of treatment was applied? This is the first time I’ve been able to touch something so smooth.”

“I spread Sticky Slime’s sticky liquid on it… and then dried it. Water can’t penetrate it… will repel the rain.”

“Sticky Slime’s sticky liquid had that kind of effect?”

Eh? He didn’t know?

“Were you unaware?”

“In regards to the applications of the Sticky Slime’s sticky liquid, I am unaware of any other uses other than as glue. And speaking of rain gears, there’s nothing outside of simply piling up several cloths and pelts and creating something like a robe. This is my first time seeing such a thin rain gear.”

Really? For some reason, Rheinbach-sama’s and the madam’s eyes sparkled. This is also a new discovery!? The slimes were seriously left unresearched. At that, the Madam spoke to me.

“That rain gear, is it ok if I test it out?”

“If it’s testing, then…”

I invocated the item box again and I brought several cloths out.

“Treated cloths. Although it’s thin, water won’t be able to go through… and although it’s worn-out, after being cleaned by the Cleaner Slime, and applying the treatment, it’s not dirty.”

These were originally the scraps of the clothes of the bandits and the loin cloths of the goblins, so please just let the fact that it’s all worn down go.

While thinking those things I presented the cloth, not just to Rheinbach-sama and the Madam but also to

Rheinhart-sama and Sebasu-san. They took the cloths and wrapped it on their on their own hands. Then they took their hands and began putting it outside the small window of the carriage.

“Ho! It’s really repelling the water!”

“Amazing, the water isn’t soaking it up at all.”

Exclaimed the Madam and Rheinbach-sama as they showed their admiration.

“The rain drops are a little cold but, if one were to affix fur within the inner part, it should be possible to make it comfortable.” Analyzed, Sebasu-san.

“This can sell! Ryouma-kun, if you work with us and begin…”

“Please excuse me. Is something the matter?”

As the four were testing out the water-repellant cloth, Arone-san opened the door of the carriage. It looks like she was sitting outside the carriage at the back. And when something needed to be done, it appears she would be called by putting out one’s hand out of the carriage and signaling.

“Ah, no, there’s nothing. We were just checking out the effectivity of the rain gear Ryouma-kun had developed.”

“I see, please excuse my behavior.”

As she said that and tried to close the door of the carriage, I noticed that her feet were wet. Apparently the roof at the rear seat isn’t able to cover the feet from the rain.

While hurriedly calling Araune-san’s attention, I took out from the item box the seemingly stolen curtain of the bandits that has been waterproofed.

“Please wait… Araune-san.”

“What’s the matter?”

“This, feet… rain, won’t go through”

“Would it be fine if I borrowed this?”

“It’s cold when wet … and like this I can also prove, that water won’t go through even after long exposure, so…”

“Thank you very much. I’ll borrow this then.”

Araune-san smiled at me, gave her thanks, and then left.

After that, a few hours passed with nothing happening. Rheinhart-sama decided to sell the water proof cloth as a new kind of rain gear. The

people inside the carriage all put their head together to come with different proposals for the development of this new technology.

Making the best out of my current knowledge, I proposed for things like raincoats and umbrellas. Incidentally, other than me, what the other five wanted to make the most was a waterproof tent. This world also has tents but since they're not waterproof, when rain comes there is a chance for leaking. And if the downpour is heavy, the chance for leaking is quite high.

Other suggestions also included, using a waterproofed cloth as a substitute for the leather pouch that's used to store water. And something like being able to fold it when water hasn't been put inside, making it somewhat compact. And a bunch of other things the others thought of as they played with the experimental cloth I had passed to them.

Finally there's that feel of being in the different world, Template! Or rather, now that I notice it, it seems that before I knew it I've somehow ended up heading on the direction of domestic affair cheat. Wasn't I supposed to be a magic and martial arts cheat? Current knowledge plus goods = a cheat in this world?

As I thought of how taxing it was to think up new products, the carriage stopped, and a messenger from our guards came.

"Milord, it seems that there has been a landslide because of the rain. We have been able to confirm from afar that the road ahead has been blocked."

"What? Is that true?"

"Yes, the road has been completely blocked. Some considerably big rocks and trees have also fallen. Like this we won't be able to cross."

"The alternative route?"

"From here it will be quite a long detour, and while it's still unconfirmed, according to our sources there's a reasonable chance that there's no other road except for one where a big group of bandits may appear. A person who has the skill, Weather Prediction, mentioned that the rain will likely stop in a few hours. The fastest way to reach the Town of Gimuru would probably be to prepare camp somewhere away from the landslide, wait for the rain to stop, and remove the sand and stones with Earth Magic. Milord, please give me your…"

"Right… it's bad for Elialia to go through a long journey since she's not used to it, and I want to avoid a dangerous road. Let's go with your decision."

“Thank you very much. We will immediately begin the operation.”

After that, the carriage began moving again. Just a little bit ahead, it seems that there’s a tree there that we might be able to use to take shelter from the rain. Although, I think it’s dangerous to be beside a tree when it’s pouring so heavily… well, there’re no thunders so it’s probably ok. For the meantime, let’s at least keep a minimum distance of 2m from the tree. That way I could feel a bit safer against that lightning.

After around five minutes the carriage stopped again. The surrounding became busy, and around the same time, Araune-san entered.

“We are currently quickly preparing the camp. Please wait just a little more. And also, Ryouma-sama, thank you very much for this cloth. Another maid, Lilian, is also very grateful.

“You’re welcome… did the water get through?”

“No, from what I’ve seen, not even a drop.”

“That’s amazing, this cloth can even stand extend periods of usage! That’s right, Araune and Ryouma-kun, I’ve decided to develop and manufacture rain gears using this cloth. Once the trial products are completed, I want to hear your opinions.”

Hearing that, Sebasu-san said, “That is certainly a good idea. If a rain gear made from this cloth were to come out, it would undoubtedly become very popular.”

As they said that, Araune smiled. But what caught my eyes and made me concerned were the guards who were working while looking like drowned rats.

I understand that’s their work and I also understand that if an unskilled person were to lend his hand he’ll just get in the way. But as someone who was once in a sweat shop in Earth, when people become dull in their work… I can’t help but become sorry for them and want to help… Oh yeah, in Barrier Magic, there’s a barrier that can avoid rain, I forgot about it since I haven’t used it in a long time. If it’s something like that then it won’t get in their way!

“Is it ok if I use, barrier magic?”

“Of course, what’s wrong?”

No good, it was too sudden. Without explaining anything I just went and said that, of course he wouldn’t understand.

“Outside, there are, people drenched… using Barrier of Rain Shelter… can

protect them from the rain. Work will be comfortable."

"I see, thank you. If you do that, it'll help them out too."

Having gotten permission, I quickly invocated the barrier Magic on the place where the people were.

"Surround them, protect them from the rain and become their shield 'Rain Shelter'."

After I chanted the magic words, as if wrapping itself around them, a dome shaped barrier appeared and affixed itself blocking off the rain.

With the rain suddenly stopping, the people inside were shocked. Camil-san noticed the barrier magic, waved his hands and gave his thanks. There were also other people that came to give their thanks but, I just ended it by waving my hands, and ascertained my next target.

I wasn't able to wrap everyone with a barrier with one shot, there are still 4 places where people are gathered that haven't been affixed with a barrier. So just like before I changed the magic words and affixed a barrier in those four places, and just now, I also put up a barrier around the carriage.

After a while, the preparations for the tent were finished and Zeff-san came over to call us.

"Sorry for making you wait, the preparations for the tent have finished. And, kid, the other guys says thanks."

"You're welcome"

"How long until the rain stops?"

"Around 2 more hours according to the guy that has the skill, as soon as it stops we'll begin to remove the earth and sand."

"Got it, then, until then, go get some rest, it will be a big job for an Earth Magician so rest well."

"Understood."

Having said that and given the orders we sent off Zeff-san and went back into our tents. The tent was quite the luxurious tent and inside, it had 4 sections.

"Fu… ah, ouch, ouch…"

The madam gave her a concerned look, and asked.

"Elia, you're still not used to carriages?"

“Sorry…”

“Don’t mind it, it’s only been recent so it can’t be helped.”

“Also, today, because of the rain, the soil was loose and it shook a lot more than normal. It can’t be helped, it’ll be good if you could properly get some rest. Ryouma, too.”

“Yes, I’ll get plenty of rest, and afterwards I’ll do my best.”

I can’t just leave things at it is, I got to ride the carriage for free and even had the costs of the hotel taken care of.

Besides, it’ll also be good training.

Rheinbach-sama looked at me with a curious look and asked.

“Do your best? With what?”

“Getting rid, of the fallen sand and earth… with Earth magic.”

“We’ll let the guards do it, so it’s fine if you just rest, you know?”

“I’ve been indebted to you, very much. It will also be for my sake. Please let me do it.”

“Fumu… If you say it like that, then I guess I’ll get your help. However, if you get tired you have to rest, ok?

You’ve already used your Barrier Magic several times, if your magic power gets cut off, it’ll be painful.”

Ah, so he was worried about that… really what a good person, I’m grateful.

“Thank you very much, I’ll be careful.”

Chapter 10

The rain had stopped, and the operation to remove the rock and sand has begun. In the surrounding area, guards who can use Earth Magic are destroying the rocks by using the magic, Break Rock. And carrying the soil away after hardening it with the magic, Rock.

While, Break Rock, uses the image of a rock being shaved, Rock, is about the image of a soil gathering and hardening in order to invocate.

About that, during the time in the forest when I excavated that cave, I somehow managed to create a combination of the two magic, Break Rock and Rock, called Create Block. Using this magic I took large quantities of rock and soil, turning them into large bricks of stones, and had the slimes carry them away.

While other people had to deal with rock and soil separately, I was able to deal with both at the same time, allowing me to remove rock and soil at a speed that's at a completely different level. Moreover, because the created bricks were being carried by slimes that worked while lined up to each other like a bucket brigade, the operation was like an assembly-line system with me rapidly using magic. Like this the operation was able to proceed at an absurd pace. When one of the other guards saw this, he called my attention.

"Can you give me a sec?"

"What is it?"

"Ryouma-kun, right? That magic, exactly how are you doing that? I may be an Earth Magician, but my main

occupation is still that of a swordsman and so I may not know all the details about Earth Magic but… I've definitely never seen a magic that can dispose of soil and rock at the same time. Can you teach me that?"

"This is, Create Block… A person who can use Break Rock and Rock could probably use this as well… Break

Rock changes rock to soil and for Rock, from soil to rock, right?"

"That's right."

"So, from rock to soil, and from soil to rock, take those two processes and turn it into one, and with that image please use your magic… if you

do this, the rocks in the area affected by your magic will turn to soil… and the soil, remaining as a soil, will along with everything else become a rock… It should be decided before hand how big the rock that will be formed will be… In my case I have my slimes carry it away, so I chose this size.”

The man gave a nod to show he understood. Then, he went to a nearby rock and tried it out, after which, while the sizes were a bit off, he was able to splendidly turn the soil and rock into a size that could be moved.

“Ha! It really works! Although I need to get used to it before I can manage the size of the rock and the amount made properly, the magic consumption seems to be lower than doing things separately. Thanks, Ryouma-kun.”

“No, I’m happy… I could be of help.”

Since, I was asked whether it would be ok if Create Block was taught to the others as well and responded with a yes, the man rushed up to the other guys working and taught them the magic as well.

The results of that… today, the number of people who can use the magic perfectly is one, and the people who can use it to some extent are 3. Overall, the speed of the entire operation had gone up. Incidentally, the one man who could use the magic perfectly was the man who came to talk with me, Gaultier-san.

When the operation ended for the day, I went back to the tent and was hugged by the Madam.

“Fuga!”

“Welcome home! You did a good job! Ryouma-kun!”

“P–please let… me go…”

Tight! It’s tight! So please…

“Madam! A rather dangerous part is being strangled! Please let go!”

“Eh! Ah!”

“Geho! Ha…”

“I’m sorry! Are you ok!?”

“Ye–yes, I’m alright… ah, umm…”

What was it again? The name of this maid that stopped madam. If I’m correct…

“Lilian…san?”

“Ye, yes!”

“Thank you very much. You saved me…”

“What’s important is your safety. By the way, the meal has already been prepared, will you be having your meal now?”

“Yes, I’ll have it now.”

When I said that. She replied, “Then please come over here.” And brought us over to the table in the room inside.

“Ryoma-kun, looks like you worked hard today, huh? Thanks for your hard work.”

“Can you eat? It’s not good to push yourself, you know?”

“My body is fine.”

“Ho… it seems you’ve used quite a bit of magic, though.”

“It was amazing, you know? That magic, Create Block, was it?”

“Yes.”

“Because of that magic of Ryouma’s and his slimes, the efficiency rose up. And even more, he taught the same magic to the guards that use Earth Magic and now it looks like the operation to remove the rocks and sands will finish much earlier than expected.”

“That’s great”

Around that time, the food was brought over and we all began to eat. Then, Elialia said, “Ryouma-san, how much magic power does Ryouma-san have?”

“Eh?”

Oh yeah, now that you mention it… How much magic do I have again? Since I came to this world, I haven’t been able to see my own status… until now I didn’t mind but… when I first came to this world, I became too excited and used magic too much, and ran out of magic power, so it’s not like its infinite but…

“What’s wrong?”

“I don’t know…”

“Eh!? But, normally you have to go the church when you reach 10 years… I see, Ryouma-san, you’ve been living in the forest, right? Then in that

case how are you able to tell your limit?”

“Based on my body’s state and my intuition.”

“Is that, ok?”

“If one gets used to it, then there’s no problem.”

Rheinbach-sama began to explain.

“In a normal family, one would go to the church on their 10th birthday and receive a measurement of their status.

At that moment, based on the magic power of a person it will be decided whether that person can become a magician in the future or not. For us, nobles, we do it on the fifth birthday so we can start with training early.

However, Ryouma-kun, your magic is probably not low. Since you were able to use magic consecutively, like that, without cutting off your magic power, you should be in possession of a significant amount of magic power.”

“It’s possible you might have around the same magic power as Elialia.”

“If it’s like that, then I’ll be very happy.”

“?”

Why would Ojousama be happy? While I was thinking that, Sebasu-san noticed and explained to me.

“Ojousama possesses an enormous amount of magic power. Given her position, from a very young age, she has received special treatment. Because of that it became difficult to create friends that would be able to talk to her easily.”

The ojousama looked, at me, and then explained herself.

“… Even though for this country’s royal court magic practitioners, at most, a magic power of a little over 60,000

can be considered to be strong. But, my magic power is 200,000.”

200,000 huh? This ojousama, she wouldn’t have happened to have been reincarnated from Earth, would she? The gods did mention that there are people who received cheats and were sent here before.

“I see.”

“I see? Aren’t you shocked!? It’s four times that that of a royal court magic practitioner, you know!?”

Even if you tell me that, I'm also a cheating bastard… so…

"Not really."

"Not really, you say?"

Whether the magic power is 60,000 or 200,000, nothing really changes. As I was thinking that, the Ojousama's expression became uneasy, and she asked me this.

"… Am I, not scary?"

"Why?"

"I'm… carrying an unbelievable amount of magic power."

Right, so?

"Ojousama, are you going to do bad things with that magic power?"

"I won't!"

"Do you want to hurt people?"

"There's no such thing! I'm…"

"Then, what's there to be afraid of?"

"Eh?"

"You don't plan to do bad things… there's no intention to hurt others… that kind of person… what's there to be afraid of?"

"That's… but…"

I wonder if something happened in the past.

"Then… Ojousama, am I scary?"

"Eh?!?"

"I've… killed many people, you know? In total, I've killed 30 people… I've also killed animals… also killed magical beasts… on top of all that… I killed someone worth 700 small gold coins… even if it was all for the sake of living, the fact that I've killed is true."

Ah… right, I've killed… If it was Japan I'd be a murdering demon. I don't think what I did was wrong though, if I hesitated I would have died. But still, the fact that I've killed is the truth. In other words…

"The person called Ryouma-kun in front of Ojousama… is a person who possesses the power to kill that many people… is Ojousama scared of that

kind of me?”

“There’s no such thing! Because Ryouma-san…! Ah...”

“It’s the same… I too, don’t think of Ojousama as scary… whether the magic power is 60,000 or 200,000… that won’t change… in the first place, humans can die easily… Let alone 200,000 not even 60,000 magic power is needed… humans can be killed even with a low level magic, Fire Ball, and if one is clumsy, they can fall, hit their head, and die, right?”

There are also people that’ve died by sneezing. (Me)…

“That’s why I… don’t think the Ojousama is scary.”

“Is that true...?”

“Yes.”

“Really? Is that really true?”

“Yes. I don’t know what kind of life you’ll live in the future but… at the very least… I won’t run from Ojousama because of her magic power.”

“Uu, uuu…. Gusu.”

Right after I said that, Ojousama cried.

Eh!? Wa–wait a moment, calm down… my voice isn't coming out! I’m not even stuttering, or smattering… Not a single word is coming out! Wait, this isn’t the time to be thinking something like that! While I’m thinking these things, won’t Ojousama cry for real!? I made a 12 year old cry… me who is actually a 42 year old uncle… what should I do?

After that, until the Ojousama stopped crying I wasn’t able to do anything. Right now, her eyes are still red but, Ojousama had already stopped crying.

“Ryouma-san.”

My head’s still a little confused but, I responded to Ojousama. I still wasn’t able to say anything yet, but I looked at Ojousama’s direction.

At that, she lowered her head deeply and, giving her thanks to me, she said, “Thank you very much. Because of Ryouma-san’s words, my heart has been put at ease. And…” Ojousama took a huge breath. “Wont’ you be friends with me?”

After saying that. I barely managed to muster a reply to that.

“If Ojousama, is fine with it… then I’d be glad.”

“From now on it’s not Ojousama… call me Elia. We’re friends, right?”

“El… ia.”

“Yes!”

As she said that, the former Ojousama, Elia, gave me a smile that was like a flower… Well in the meantime it’s been settled peacefully but, saying what she wanted to be said, in the end didn’t I just let the situation take its course?

… Ah, whatever. Elia’s happy and there’s nothing wrong. In this case, trying to change the situation rather than letting it take its course would be uncouth.

Chapter 11

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~Side Ryouma~

It's been 3 days since the day I've made Elia cry. After the landslide our trip had proceeded without a hitch. And today, we have finally reached our destination, Gimuru.

"We've arrived, this is the town of Gimuru."

The Town of Gimuru is tranquil despite being a big town because of the greens surrounding it. Near this town appears to be a mine. It seems, however, that the iron that this mine should be producing has been decreasing.

Especially this time's observation. Three years ago the production has become mostly 0, and as such, today's visit was for the purpose of affirming whether the mine should be abandoned or not.

It would appear, though, that the fact that it will be abandoned has mostly been decided. Rheinhart reasoned that since there isn't one mine, there won't be a problem even after 10 years. So I guess it has already been assumed that it will be abandoned.

Considering, that the mining rate has been nearly 0, unless they find a new vein, they will immediately abandon the mine. Also, it seems the miners from the village haven't really been working on this mine since last year. But that's something to be expected, after all anyone would prefer to work at a place that could bring out results.

"Then, let's go to the lodging, leave our belongings there, and then go to the Tamer Guild to register!"

The Tamer Guild is the guild to which the two classes of practitioners that control magical beasts, the Slave Magic Users and the Conjurers belong too. Their job is to provide information and certain services to the members.

In the same way, there are also other guilds, such as the Adventurer Guild or the Magic Guild, and there's also the Merchant Guild. But compared to the other three, the members of the Tamer Guild are fewer because the beasts get scared of people easily, so it's not as popular.

As a result, the scale of the guild becomes smaller, and the places where the guild can be found has also becomes fewer. That kind of rare guild is here in this town. As for why, it seems it's because they use the beasts to carry things from the mine.

Today, the Madam is in high spirits and is pulling me and Elia while humming. When we reached the lodging, there was something bothering me, so before going to the guild, I brought up my concern to the Madam and the others.

"I… how much of my information… should I give to the guild?"

"Well… the information offered is entirely up to the discoverer… so up to how much Ryouma-kun thinks is good will be fine." Replied the madam.

I see, then in that case…

"Then, I'll register the evolution conditions for the Slime and the Big Slime, and the 2 new variations as well."

"Are you going to keep the methods of using a Sticky Slime a secret?"

"Yes, since we're going to be selling waterproof cloths… if we teach it to them, similar goods… might appear on the market."

"Ah, there's also that. Right, then let's keep that a secret."

After talking, we were planning to go straight to the Tamer Guild, but before that Rheinbach-sama said this.

"Ryouma-kun hasn't been able to go to church yet, right? Then, in that case, how about we go to the church first and see your status?"

At those words, Rheinhart-san and the madam made a face that said, "Right, there was still that!"

It seems that the status board that the church can bring out doesn't just show the status and the likes but can also make the process for the guild registration to go smoother.

There is a condition before joining the Tamer Guild that one needs to be able to use Slave Magic or otherwise Conjuration. If one hands over one's status board and there is Slave Magic written in the field for the skills shown, then the answer will immediately be ok.

In the case that one isn't able to show his status board then, you will be made to wait for a while and will have to perform the Slave Contract with the prepared slime in front of the clerk in charge. If one is unable to perform the instruction, then one cannot register.

In other words we changed our plans and went to the Church of Genesis of the Town of Gimuru. By the way, since we ended up going to the church, we made the slimes wait at our lodging. Although if we were only going to the Tamer Guild it would have been fine.

When we got to the church, what greeted us was the warm smile of an elderly woman wearing the kind of clothes a nun would wear.

"Welcome, esteemed guests. Is there chapel today?"

"We would like for this child to receive his status board. Because of some circumstance, until now he was unable to receive his status board."

"Please take care of me."

"Is that so? Then, please come this way. I will lead you to the Room of Baptism."

I went with the woman who was dressed in the clothes of a nun and walked inside the church. It seems, aside from the people who will receive the baptism, entering the Room of Baptism is prohibited. So, as soon as we reached the room, the others had to go to a different room and waited there.

"This way please."

"Excuse me."

In the room I was brought to, a crystal ball like the one I saw at the guard's room in the Town of Kereban was there on top of the pedestal. That pedestal had a depressed area that was around the size of palm, rectangular in shape and positioned in the portrait orientation. The girl brought a transparent board that looked like it would fit just right into that.

"This will become your status board. I will insert this board into the pedestal and once you touch the crystal, the baptism will be complete. Once you touch this crystal, the crystal will emit a strong light, however, it won't hurt you, so please don't worry."

As the girl said that, she inserted the status board into the pedestal, and walked away from the pedestal.

"Please, go ahead and touch the crystal."

"Yes."

While being a little excited, I began to slowly touch the crystal. As I did that, in an instant, a strong light like the one when I came to this world, shone from the crystal and filled the room with light. When that light

stopped, what was in front of my eyes wasn't the Room of Baptism anymore, it was the same pure-white room as when I met the gods for the first time.

"This is...!"

"Hey! Ryouma-kun!"

"Over here!"

"Behind you!"

As I turned to face that voice, the three gods that sent me to Seiruforu was standing there.

"Gayn, Kufo, Rurutia... Did I die again?"

“No, no, you’re alright. We just made the time in that world stop for a bit and we pulled only your

consciousness.” [Gayn]

“I also didn’t think that we’d be able to meet again but because you prayed to our stone statue which you made in the forest everyday…” – Kufo

“You isolated yourself in the forest, trained, researched, and practiced over and over again, right? You were also able to provide for your own food, in a sense it was also just the bare necessities, making your daily life pretty much the same as the discipline of a believer.” [Rurutia]

“Umu, I thought you wouldn’t be able to meet us no matter how many times you go to church, but since you’ve actually met us for real, you believed in our existence from the bottom of your heart, and for 3 years you prayed every day to us. Because of that you satisfied the requirements for the skill, Oracle. Being in the Room of Baptism served as an impetus for that. Once you wake up, you should have received a new skill, Oracle, which will be around Lv2 or Lv3.” [Gayn]

“I see… well regardless, I’m happy that we were able to meet again.” [Young Boy God]

“We are, too. Thank you for coming to the church just as you’ve promised.” [Rurutia]

“It looks like you’re having fun in the new world. I’ve always being watching and it seems you’ve been doing interesting things one after another.” [Kufo]

“I didn’t think that you would actually isolate yourself in the forest for 3

years. Though for us that was a short time, but for a human that's not the case. First of all, although relatively it may be a safe forest, it's not without danger. We thought at most it'd only be 1 year, but…" [Gayn]

"You used the skills you had freely, you researched magic and used it in your day-to-day life, and in not even 3

years, although you can't say it's luxurious, you've managed to create an environment you can live in." [Rurutia]

"When you look at that by its appearance it may seem frugal, but when you take into consideration the

environment it's a really great house. It's very safe, wide, and clean. The facilities are also complete. Especially the fact that it has a bath, in this world, only the houses of the wealthy have baths in them. And also, the fact that you have a toilet, and yet it's so clean it doesn't stink. Even if you look all over the world, such a thing could only be found in your house." [Kufo]

"To think that you were able to produce that much result from your slime research. I also didn't think of that. In the first place there aren't any people that researches Slimes. I was especially surprised by those two variations, the Cleaner Slimes and the Scavenger Slimes. That's a new variant, right?" [Gayn]

"So, it's like that after all. I also asked the members of the family of Slave Magic Users and they said they didn't know, so I thought that might be the case." [Young Boy God]

"Umu. I made the slimes but I only gave it the ability to adapt easily to the environment and the power to reproduce so it ended up having infinite possibilities for evolution. But because it was too weak and was exterminated by other animals to some extent right after a seed was born it didn't increase in number at all. In the end it ended up such that the slimes that would be born would be decided based on the environment of the area.

That's why even I completely forgot about the possibility of a new kind of slime being born! You've done a wonderful job!" [Gayn]

"For a person to have researched slimes to that extent, I think you're the first one." [Rurutia]

"Even more you've managed to produce results even beyond what we gods imagined." [Kufo]

"Hey, hey, were slimes really not researched to that extent?" [Young Boy God]

“It wasn’t!” [Kufo], Gayn, Rurutia

“Even I, who made it, actually managed to forget about it. When it comes to slimes I have a feeling you already know more than me!” [Gayn]

“Even if it’s limited to slimes, to have knowledge greater than god. What’s up with that?” [Kufo]

“However… when it comes to slimes, there’s still a lot of things you’re thinking about, right? I took a peek at your research and you’ve been thinking of things I haven thought of. In the first place, even if I’m a god, it doesn’t mean I’m omnipotent. The gods have their respective specialties and places where they’re bad at. There are also times when someone is born in the world I’m protecting that manages to discover something and leaves me wide-eyed.” [Gayn]

“Is that so?” [Young Boy God]

“Un. For example we are gods and you are humans so we can’t be hurt by you guys, but if you were to, right now, come try to beat us up, you can easily do it. Because we don’t have any fighting abilities. Using the power of god we can protect ourselves and make ourselves untouchable or make the pain go away but using techniques to win against you is impossible. The only one who can fight is the God of War, who specializes at fighting.” [Kufo]

“Is that so? I didn’t know.” [Young Boy God]

“Well, when you say god, humans normally imagine someone that can do anything. But more than anything it’s fun. And also to think that you’d end up related to that family~” [Rurutia]

“Mn? Do you know the people of the Jamil Famil?”

“Well yeah, since the ancestor of those people is a person we sent from Earth.” [Rurutia]

“Really!?” [Young Boy God]

“Mn. She was a good child~. It seemed he was aiming to be a trainer of animals. She didn’t seem to understand the situation very well but she asked for an ability that allowed her to subdue animals, then went over to that world.” [Kufo]

“Was that perhaps slave Magic?” [Young Boy God]

“Bingo! Well, at that time there was a similar ability but she studied that ability, and mixed it with the power we gave her, and what came about was Slave Magic. She received merit for completing Slave Magic and at

the same time received a Court Rank from the king. Her face was good so she was quite popular, and eventually fell in love with a noble and got married. Ever since then, her linage continued and while having an ancient and honorable origin, her descendants practiced Slave Magic." [Rurutia]

"Moreover, amongst the 3 currently existing members of the Jamil Household, Rheinbach has received my divine protection, while Rheinhart from Kufo, and Elize from Rurutia. And that daughter, Elialia, the blood of the person we sent over runs deep in her veins and has inherited her ancestor's traits. It's not like you shouldn't already be aware." [Gayn]

"You should at least properly look at what's right below you" [Kufo]

"Seriously!? Oh, wait. If she takes after her ancestor then that's why her magic power is over 200,000."

"That's exactly correct but, it's not because of the reincarnated person we just mentioned. Of course, she has extraordinary talent in Slave Magic but that talent comes from her dad's lineage. As for her magic it's because of a different person who was reincarnated, whose blood flows in the veins of her mother. This one is a typical representation of an Otaku who was reincarnated. It seemed he hated exercising, so he gave up completely on martial arts and became peerless in magic. Because he put everything into his talent for magic and magic power, he possessed a frightening amount of magic power… Elialia inherited that part from him. He was quite the eccentric, though." [Gayn]

"That kid, at first, didn't know how to take care of himself~" Kufo

"Because he was weak and was a coward, until the day he died he didn't do any evil and was happy. During those days until he died he was always scared." [Rurutia]

"From the little I've heard it seems there's quite a bit of people that have been reincarnated" [Young Boy God]

"The ones I'm pleased with, and the ones I'm not, there are quite a lot. A person from Earth will definitely bring magic power with them, so we will definitely take one person. Even an interval of 200 years is short for a reincarnated person to get here so it is unlikely for there to be multiple people who have been reincarnated at the same era." [Rurutia]

"But there were times when the situation was aggravated because of the use of magic during war, at which point we would hurriedly bring someone from Earth. Well, it doesn't happen all the time. Especially nowadays where there's no war, so there probably won't be one in your lifetime." [Kufo]

“Since people who have been reincarnated receive high level skills and special skills from the gods, there’s a lot that end up in fairytales and legends and stories of heroes and the like for example. There was that story I talked to you about Elilia-chan and her mother’s side of her family. In that family there was a guy that was peerless at magic that would be quickly called out during times of war and at the same time, they would go on a rampage and be called heroes or brave warriors. And then I don’t know if you can remember, but there was this story you talked about before about a figure that used a power that mostly couldn’t be used and was persecuted. And that arrogant man received treatment like he was a demon king or something and was subjugated and ended up

becoming a fairytale. You’ve heard of the story of the Alchemist King right?”

“Yeah I’ve heard of the story of how Alchemy came to be. Was the Alchemy King someone who was

transferred?” [Young Boy God]

“That’s right. But it’s a person that was reallyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy annoying!” [Rurutia]

“When we were giving him a gift he said he wanted to use alchemy. When we told him it didn’t exist in the other world, he ordered us to go make it!” [Kufo]

“It couldn’t be helped so I listened and created it irresponsibly” [Gayn]

“Hey, it couldn’t be that the method of using Alchemy was strangely easy because…”

“Umu. I made it irresponsibly after all.” [Gayn]

“I knew it! Write a simple magic formation, on top of that, just put your material there and imagine the thing it’s going to separate into, put some magic, and boom! Success! I thought it was too easy, so that’s why! I thought it was strange that other things common in other magic like controlling the amount of magic power or regulating it wasn’t needed.” [Young Boy God]

“That’s right, because of his selfishness I didn’t want to take the time. No matter how free I am, rather than doing something I’m unhappy about it’s better to be leisurely.” [Gayn]

“I agree with you on that point but…” [Young Boy God]

“Well it is difficult for the humans of this world, you know? Because the people of this world don’t have the knowledge of the people from Earth.

The Alchemist King was a student from Earth so there wasn't any problem and he was able to use it to amass a fortune. But after the golden age of alchemy, there were plenty of people who couldn't even use separation once. The Alchemist King was a money monger, and he didn't want his profits to be taken away from him so he died without teaching his techniques and knowledge to anyone." [Gayn]

"And so… he did as he pleased… and even other people who were transported here…" [Young Boy God]

"That's right. In that case you're similar in that you do whatever you want but at least you're more docile.

Although you may feel like you're just going with the flow, it's not like that. You at least make your decisions yourself, you obey the rules you should obey, and within that in its own way you do what you want. Right now, you are the most desirable person to have been pulled in this world, Seiruforu, you know?" [Kufo]

"What's up, all of the sudden?" [Young Boy God]

"Fu~Fu~n, even if I'm like this I am still pretty much a god, so I thought I'd say something fitting for a god. It seems you're worrying about when Elia asked you to be her friend, and you just went with the flow and agreed."

"Aah, I see…"

"It's fine not to think too much about it. Since in your previous world you lived your life by going along with your surroundings, isn't right now the same? And besides it's not like going along with your surroundings is a completely bad thing." [Rurutia]

"Elia-chan was happy, right? Then isn't that just fine?" [Gayn]

"Yeah, you're right. Thank you, you three."

"Don't mind it, we're gods after all. An advice of this level is just like taking a walk for us." [Gayn]

"We're having fun because of you, so consider this our thanks." [Kufo]

"Your time here is about to run out, so we just gave you a little advice before that." [Rurutia]

"Thank you. And also I'm sorry, but, it seems I lost much of my vocabulary since I came into this world so I can't say it very well, but, thank you." [Young Boy God]

"You're feelings have reached us." [Rurutia]

“Well, it’s because we’re watching over everyone.” [Kufo]

“Recently other gods have also been watching you, you know?” [Gayn]

“Eh, other?”

“You’ve caught the interest of the God of War and the God of Magic. It’s actually quite strange since they actually hate people that have been transported here.” [Gayn]

“The God of War is interested in your martial arts. It’s not a cheat we gave you so it’s different from this world and also because it’s something you’ve mastered with your own effort. The God of Magic doesn’t hate cheat abilities as much as the God of War does, but he hates the people that have been transported here who goes on a rampage with their power, or goes around making lots of money. You see, that guy likes people that practice prudency. With that in mind, since you’ve been researching magic and slimes a lot, and you haven’t really been hasty in your matters, you’ve manage to pull his interest.” [Kufo]

“The ones who are always watching are only us, but, whenever they’re in the mood, those other two gods also watch.” [Rurutia]

“What’s up with that?” [Young Boy God]

“It’s not like they’ll actually do something so isn’t it fine? Ah, but the God of Art and Craft actually gave you his protection. For the meantime it’s not a bad thing so don’t mind it.” [Rurutia]

“He said he came to like you because he liked how you drink the sake from your previous world. It’s because that guy is also the God of Wine. In your previous life it seems you didn’t drink sake enjoyably, but he seems to value the fact that’ve drunk so much. Also he said your Drunken Fist which you practiced was quite interesting.” [Gayn]

“Drunken Fist? Oh right, I did practice it from to time in the forest… so that was seen. In my previous life, I didn’t have any money to play with, and since my dad died, I just studied several martial arts to kill time. To think someone would actually find that interesting…” [Young Boy God]

“Well, no one knows what will happen in life, right? The settings of your lineage includes having the grandpa who raised you up be a dwarf. So, Tekun, may be the God of Wine, but he is mainly worshipped by the dwarves, so it’s just perfect for you.” [Gayn]

“Oh, right, now that you mention there was something like that. Is that ok? Isn’t it weird?” [Ryouma]

“It’s fine. Well then, it looks like we’ve run out of time.” [Gayn]

“I see… then, see you.” [Young Boy God]

“Un, come again.” [Kufo]

“When you come to the church again we’ll be able to talk again for a short while. Though, it’s impossible immediately, but one day I think we’ll definitely be able to talk again. Actually, this is fact is also something unexpected.” [Rurutia]

“You are really an interesting person. I will be eagerly waiting for the day we meet again, and until then, I’ll be watching over you.” [Gayn]

As Gayn said that, a warm light began to overflow in front of my eyes, as soon as the light calmed down, I saw the woman in nun clothes again.

“What an amazing light. The stronger the light the stronger the love god has for you. At this rate, sooner or later, you might be able to receive the divine protection of god. Afterwards please look at your card, ok?”

Looks like just as Gayn mentioned, the time over here stopped. Nevertheless, should I ask her about the divine protection?

“Thank you very much. Is there anything I need to know regarding the divine protection?”

“The divine protection is something granted to you by god so no one has the right to say anything except for you and the god that has given you the divine protection. If you want to ask about the protection you have, I can teach you as much as I know, but I won’t try to ask anything from you. And also your status card will basically only show the name, age, race, and everything else aside from this will be hidden, because it’s private information. If you wish for an information on your card to be hidden, you only need to pray silently and it will become hidden.

Please try it out.”

Being told that, I looked at the information shown in the status board.

Chapter 12

TL Notes: Here's your crack boys. Remember to say grace. I added the changes from the status in the prologue here. It wasn't there in the raws so I just added it myself.

~ Side Ryouma ~

Name	Ryouma Takuma	Age	39 Years Old
Race	Human		
Physical Strength	10486	Magic Power	198000
Power	B	Speed	A
Defense	B	Spirit	SSS
Endurance	A	Handiness	SSS
Luck	B		
Living Skills			
Domestic Chores Lv10	Etiquette Lv7	Musical Instrument Lv3	Singing Lv3
Calculation Lv5			
Battle Skills			

Taijutsu Lv7	Kenjutsu Lv7	Short Sword Arts Lv6	Hidden Weapon Arts Lv7
Spear Arts Lv4	Bow Arts Lv6	Staff Arts Lv6	Counterweight arts Lv4
Throwing Arts Lv7	Covert Arts Lv7	Trap Lv6	Body Manipulation Lv6
Kikou Lv5			
Magic Skills			
Magic Perception Lv3	Magic Manipulation Lv4	Magic Recovery Rate Up Lv2	Slave Magic Lv2
Barrier Magic Lv2	Healing Magic Lv1	Alchemy Lv2	Fire Magiv Lv3
Water Magic Lv3	Wind Magic Lv2	Earth Magiv Lv4	Electric Magic Lv1
Electric Magic Lv1	Ice Magic Lv2	Poison Magic Lv2	Wood Magic Lv3
Light Magic Lv2	Dark Magic Lv1	Space Magic Lv3	
Production Skills			

Pharmacy Lv6	Smithing Lv1	Architecture Lv3	Woodworking Lv3
Modeling Lv4	Drawing Lv4		
Resistance Skills			
Physical Pain Resistance Lv8	Mental Resistance Lv9	Poison resist Lv7	Disease resist Lv7
Sleep resist Lv7	Cold resist Lv7	Heat resist Lv7	Resistance to Foul Odor Lv3
Special Skills			
Stronger Vitality Lv3	Super Healing Lv3	Endurance Lv6	Focus Spirit Lv5
Survival Lv5	Oracle Lv3		
Titles			
Gekokujou, The Man Who Lost His Life to Bad Luck, Favorite Child of the Gods, Disciple of the Sage, Disciple of the Martial God			
Divine Protections			
Divine Protection of Gayn the God of Creation, Divine Protection of Kufo the God of Life, Divine Protection of Rurutia the God of Love, Divine Protection of Tekun the God of Wine			

I was told beforehand that my Magic Power will increase once I get here so that's fine.

There's quite a bit of skills that had levelled up. Looking at this, the Magic Skills are quite numerous… hmm?

Survival Skills… what is this? Now that I think about it, I should have had some Survival Skills but disappeared for some reason, is this it? It also looks like the titles have changed for the better, and this disciple thing, it's that, right? That thing that was written on the letter the gods sent to me when I got here, to make it so that my skill level won't seem suspicious.

(TL Note: His Survival Skills used to be written in katakana and now it's written as 生存術 , seizonjutsu, as for the signifance of that I don't know. Also I'm keeping it as Survival Skills for now)

And as for the divine protections, I have the divine protections of the three gods and the God of Wine.

Well in any case, let's do as she said and hide everything else aside from the name, age, and race… Done.

"I'm done."

"Then let us go to the room were your companions are waiting. If you want anything please ask them."

At the woman's suggestion, we left the room. When we got outside we heard the voices of some children.

"Wait! Wait!"

"Ahahaha! I'm over here!"

Looking at the direction of the voice, through the window, I saw some children wearing worn-out clothes, playing. When I saw them, the woman explained to me.

"They are the children that this church is looking after. They are always cheerful and when they're done with their chores, they go outside and play like that."

An orphanage, huh? Well I don't know what circumstances their family has, but I understand.

Having finished her explanation the woman suggested for us to go.

“Well then, let us be on our way.”

Following the woman, we eventually reached a room inside the church. In there were my companions, Rheinhart-san, Madam, Rheinbach-sama, Elia, and Sebasu-san.

“Sorry for making you wait, the baptism has finished with no problems.”

“Sorry for making you wait guys.”

“No problem.”

Right after Rheinhart-san said that, the woman took her leave.

“Well then, I will be taking my leave. Please feel free to use this room until you wish to leave.”

“Thank you very much.”

Immediately, I also gave my thanks.

“Thank you very much.”

“You’re welcome. Well then.”

After Rheinhart-san saw her out the room, I asked Rheinhart-san.

“Hmm… She left rather hurriedly… is there something wrong?”

“It’s because the information in the status board is one’s personal information and is a secret from everyone.

That’s her showing her consideration.”

Said Rheinhart-san as the Madam followed.

“This room was also prepared with the intention of allowing the people that have been baptized and their family to be able to talk about the status here without being bothered.”

“So that’s how it is.”

“Umu, it’ll be bad if one talks about the information in the status bord indiscreetly. Although in the past it was actually illegal to hide one’s status, but because there were many who tried to abuse that information, it has become customary to hide that information.” [Rheinbach]

“The skills that a person possesses can show how one fights, and how

much power one has, having this

information out in the open is inconvenient. Physical Strength and Magic Power was said to be peerless in the battlefield and the best warriors and magicians of the country's limits was exposed and received the attack of the enemy and was killed. Such things happened many times. Nowadays no one really shows the contents of their status outside of the people they permit. And also, for the same reason, people also don't show their divine protection. The only thing people show is their name, race, and age, and also depending on the person, their title." [Sebasu]

"I see." [Ryouma]

"That's why you should keep your information a secret. And if there's something you don't know, I can give you advice, but if there's something you don't want to talk about then you don't have to talk about it, ok?" [Madam]

These people are so gentle…. Well then regarding which to tell them about… well there's something I need to show them first.

"Got it… but… there's something I need to show you first."

"What is it?"

I unhide the information field for the Magic Power and show it to Elia.

"Elia."

"Yes? … !? Ryouma-san, this!"

My magic power isn't as high as Elia's but it's close. After that I showed the other four the information field for my magic power as well. When I did, their eyes opened wide.

"I lost to Elia… but… it shouldn't be that different."

"This is amazing, while it won't surpass Elia's, it's close."

"I only meant it as a joke that time but to think that you would actually be on the same level as Elia in terms of magic power."

"Ara ara, you really are an amazing child Ryouma-kun."

When Elia saw the information field for my magic power, she shook a bit, then took my hands. She seems happy.

"That's amazing Ryouma-san! For there to be someone who possesses

magic power on the same level as me, I'm so happy!"

Elia took my hands and jumped up and down for a minute until she ran out of breath because of how happy she was.

"Haa, haa…. I'm sorry, I got a bit too excited…"

I don't know if it's out of embarrassment or because she's out of breath but her face was flushed red. Either way, madam spoke to me.

"Hmmm…. Ryouma-kun, if you have this much magic power then… what about your magic techniques?"

"I'll show… my magic skills… if it's you guys… it's fine."

As I said that I showed my different magic skills.

Magic Skills

Slave Magic Lv2

Barrier Magic Lv2

Healing Magic Lv1

Alchemy Lv2

Fire Magic Lv3

Water Magic Lv3

Wind Magic Lv2

Earth Magic Lv4

Neutral Magic Lv3

Electric Magic Lv1

Ice Magic Lv2

Poison Magic Lv2

Wood Magic Lv3

Light Magic Lv2

Dark Magic Lv1

Space Magic Lv3

Magic Perception Lv3

Magic Manipulation Lv4

Magic Recovery Rate UP Lv2

“What amazing variety. And also the skills are quite high considering your age. I remember hearing that you possessed All Attribute Aptitude but to think that you would actually use all attributes.” [Sebasu]

“All the low level attributes are over lv 2, and considering that your mid-level attributes also have level 2 or 3… it’s more than enough.” [Rheinhart]

“As expected your Earth Magic and Space Magic level is quite high. Even though it’s so difficult to raise the level of Space Magic… you’ve done a spectacular job going this far.” [Madam]

“In regards to one’s prospects, you’ll probably surpass me. And you actually also possess, Magic Detection, Manipulation, and Recovery Rate UP.” [Sebasu]

“Because I was living in the forest, I had to use magic, and so it somehow ended up like this… Most likely, fire and water leveled up during cooking and when I had to take baths. And… as for Earth and Space Magic, I used them for hunting… so, they were mostly used everyday.” [Young Boy God]

“Fumu… did you use things like attack magic?” [Sebasu]

“No… during hunting… it was mostly traps and bow. I could use fire ball but the meat would get burned and the parts I can eat… will become few. And then there’s Earth Needle, which I would use to substitute for a stake, which I would usually put inside my trap holes.” [Young Boy God]

“I see, so because you’ve been using magic a lot in your daily life, you ended up levelling up. Then in that case, I suggest you practice attack magic since, there’s no disadvantage if you can use it… and also so that you’ll be able to deal with a monster that can’t be killed with anything except for magic.” [Sebasu]

… I forgot. Right, there was that kind of monster. Just like the monster of the light novel in the other world, Template, that kind of monster. It’s because I‘ve isolated myself in the forest for too long that I completely forgot.

Anyhow, I'll train in offensive magic from now on.

"Now that you mention it, I think I'd like to try that out."

"Low level attribute magic is relatively easy, so even at your current level if you practice it for a bit you'll be able to use. Since, you were able to attain Earth Magic, I think you'll also be able to use the higher levels. I don't really think it should be that difficult." [Sebasu]

"Ryouma-kun has a lot of magic power, and you even have the Magic Manipulation Skill which reduces the

amount of Magic Power consumed, and even Recovery Rate Up which increases the recovery rate, so with that in mind you could definitely do a lot even in only a single day of practice." [Rheinhart]

"You have a lot of advantage in regards to magic so don't waste it, ok?" [Rheinbach]

"Yes, I'll do my best." [Young Boy God]

As I said that, Rheinbach-sama nodded at me with a satisfied face. However, after that he made a serious face and said, "Ryouma-kun there's something I need to tell you beforehand."

"What is it?"

"Your abilities compared to kids your age, are ridiculously high. Because of that there will be many people who will come at you with bad intentions. If you don't want that to happen then hide your abilities and quickly gain a social status so that you may be able to protect yourself. Only, in your case, your abilities are too high, so hiding it will definitely be difficult. So you should register at the guild quickly, and get a high rank. Regardless of what happens, we will also lend you our strength but it's important that you, yourself, takes care." [Rheinbach] Said Rheinbach-sama as the madam followed up.

"In your case since your abilities are too high, it becomes obvious that you have divine protection. We only had a vague feeling, but after seeing your skills it becomes clear that you have divine protection. You need to be careful, someone who possess divine protection will definitely be targeted."

Seriously? ...It's true I'm not really restraining myself but was it that weird? I better be careful.

"I understand, I'll be careful."

So we did the baptism in the church and then after that I was warned and now we are about to go to the Tamer Guild.

Going to the Tamer Guild, in its surroundings there's a place where many magical beasts are connected, and there many places for carriages to stop at. Just what you'd expect from a mining town, magical beasts that work for transportation are numerous. Also, it seems that it's ok to bring small magical beasts inside the guild, so if I were to make the slimes use the compress skill, I'd be able to bring them in.

Inside the guild there were only mostly humans, but from time to time I would see some Goblins and Kobolds who were made to carry things. In there, with Rhenhart-san leading us, we went to the counter where the staff member was at.

"Welcome to the Tamer Guild Branch of the Town of Gimuru. May I know what the purpose of your visit may

be?"

"I want to register my daughter and this child, and also we have new information."

"Understood. Please go inside."

Under the guidance of the staff member we were led inside, and were served tea. And after a few minutes, another staff member, a male, who wore pompous clothes came in. At that time, even without him saying, I had a bad feeling from him. … What is this? This bad feeling…

"Welcome. I am, the Branch Manager, Matthew Ganteyn. My greetings to the famous Household of Jamil.

Everyone it is my pleasure to be meeting you all today. Your errand for today is the registration of the Ojousama, yes?"

"I want to register my daughter and this kid."

"This kid?"

The man who named himself Matthew saw me. At that moment I noticed it, this kind of guy is exactly like the higher ups in my previous life. They flatter those above them but fail to remember even the names of those below them. They're horrible people who refuse to look at those below them as humans and treat them like tools. This guy is that type. From the looks of things, it seems that my existence hasn't even entered his sight until now.

He probably decided it based on the clothes. Those toady eyes he had before when talking to Rheinhart-san, without changing his expression, changed the moment he saw me. In his eyesight were a combination of contempt and jealousy. Even now you could see his eyes asking, “Why is someone like you with the members of the

Household of the Duke?”

“This person too?”

“Yeah, that’s right.”

“Understood… Hey.” *(TL Note: I can’t show it in English but he basically goes from heaven to hell in terms of politeness here.)* Matthew took 2 sheets of paper from the staff member behind him and gave it to me and Elia.

“Please fill out this form. Do you need someone to write for you?”

“Thank you for your concern. But, I can write just fine.”

“Right.”

I quickly filled out the form with the necessary information, which includes, the name, the age, race, and the length of time I’ve known Slave Magic or Conjuration.

“Well then please allow me to confirm. Ojousama, you tamed your first slime a few days ago, much

congratulations. From now on I’ll be expecting great progress from Ojousama. And you as for you… 3 years ago?

What slave monster did you bring with you?”

“Slime.”

“Heh, Slime, huh? Even though you’ve already known Slave Magic for 3 years…”

As Matthew said that, Elia unhappily asked him a question. Because of this Matthew was a bit panicked. I guess he remembered that for Elia’s first Slave Monster, she also started off with a slime.

“Is there something wrong with a Slime?”

“No, I won’t say it’s bad but Slimes are weak monsters. So, unfortunately, there are only few missions that Slimes can accept in this town. The jobs

of Slave Magic Users in this town is mainly the transport of things from the mines, so at the very least you'd need a Goblin or a Kobold. Otherwise, you'd only be able to take the

introductory missions."

Matthew gave that excuse but it didn't work and the Madam came with the covering fire.

"Certainly, the work may be a bit few. However, because his master died while he was learning he was not able to learn completely. So, couldn't you be a bit more understanding?"

"So that's the case, please pardon my rude behavior."

As he said that he lowered his head. Not to me though, but to the Madam. I didn't even enter his line of sight.

"Well then let us please continue with the registration. There doesn't seem to be any defects in the documents, so please bring out the proofs that you can use Slave Magic. You can show me your status board that proves you have the Slave Magic Skill or you can you can show me the enactment of the Slave Magic contract. Which will it be?"

At those words we, Elia and I, showed our status boards and the field that shows the Slave Magic Skill.

"Yes, this is sufficient. Well then, please put your status boards on top of the stone block over here."

The stone block that was brought out seemed to be quite similar to the one in the Room of Baptism in the church, also having a four sided depression. Except this time there is a metal plate inlayed into the depression. Looks like you're supposed to put the status board on top of the part of the plank that doesn't have anything on it.

The first one was Elia, and after her I put my board on top of that stone block, and then a character showed on the metal plate.

"With this, the two of you have been registered. We welcome the two new members of our Tamer Guild."

After Matthew said that we moved into our next topic.

"Well then, I heard that today, you have information to give me."

"Yes, it's this child's discovery."

Saying that, the madam looked at me, and Matthew also looked at me.

“This child, was it?”

“Yes, this child was able to tame a slime that we four believe to have never been tamed before. If you investigate it, I’m sure you’ll find there to be no information of it all. We believe it to be a new type.”

“Oh… is that so…”

At Madam’s words, it’s obvious that Matthew had lost all interest. With the smile he smoothened out, he looked at me with eyes that looked like he was looking at trash.

… I changed my mind. I’ll just report the information about the new slimes.

“Would it be ok if I report?”

“Ahh, yeah…”

“Then… What I had discovered, which we believe to be a new kind of slime, is the Cleaner Slime and the

Scavenger Slime. This was confirmed with the Magical Beast Appraisal so there’s no mistake. Their

characteristics include having a particular fondness for eating dirt but Cleaner Slimes don’t eat anything aside from dirt, and won’t attack or eat people or animals. Scavenger Slimes are similar to Cleaner Slimes in that they won’t attack humans or animals. However, they can eat anything. Especially rotten meat, which they seem to love.”

“I see… that’s certainly a slime I’ve never heard of before. That disposition is strange, it’s probably a new kind.

Then I’ll register the information of the magical beast here. Thanks for the new information.”

“Don’t mind, I just came across it by coincidence.”

“Right… Well then, members of the Household of Jamil, I still have things I must attend to and I apologize as I am unable to see you out, please excuse me and I’ll take my leave here.”

“Thank you very much.”

“Thank you very much.”

I and Elia gave our thanks, and after that we left the guild.

“Well then, what should we do now?”

“Special Training! Ryouma-san!”

Why all of the sudden?

“Why do you want a special training all of the sudden?”

“… Because it’s mortifying… Ryouma-san has always been researching and yet, Ryouma-san aren’t you

mortified?”

“That’s right… but it’s not like I’ve been researching to be praised, and I’ve also gotten used to that kind of interaction, especially that kind…”

Because the workplace in the otherworld was full of people like that… and even if you get angry at those kind of words, there’s nothing you can do.

“And also I don’t want to teach that person so I only gave him the minimum information so… something like this, it’s nothing at all.”

“Ryoma-san…”

“Thank you for worrying for me and getting mad on my behalf.”

And then it suddenly hit me. I, can talk normally. This past few days I’ve been staying with Elia and the rest, it’s mostly been ok but, do you remember how I talked to that guy a while ago? That time for some strange reason the words came out smoothly. It was as if I was back in the company in my previous life… I wonder if it’s because of the will power of the corporate slave identity that has already been deeply ingrained into me…

“Ryouma-kun.”

“Ah, yes, what is it?”

“What’s the matter?”

“Nothing… it just seems that my speech has come back completely. In the past I was surround a lot by those kind of people so it looks my speech which was deeply ingrained by guys like those came back.”

“… Please talk just as you’ve talked until now. There’s no need to humble yourself to us.” *(TL Note: By humble, he’s referring to the use of polite*

language)

“That’s right. Ryouma-kun, I don’t like the way you talk now, it’s too cold.”

“Kid’s shouldn’t be reserved.”

“It’s similar to how nobles talk, it’s pressuring and make me feel uncomfortable. Ryoma-san, please talk just as you had before.” or so… complained the Madam.

Being told that… well, whatever, let’s go with the more casual one then.

“Got it. Then I’ll do my best to talk just as usual.”

“It’s ok even if you call me your mother, you know?”

“Well it will be good if you take it slowly, well then what will you do now? Are you going back to the lodging?”

“I think it will be good if Ryouma-sama also registers at the adventurer guild.”

Said Sebasu-san at which everyone seemed to approve except for me and Elia.

From the looks of things, what that guy said was true. There are a lot of transport jobs here in the Tamer Guild.

But those kind of jobs can’t be taken by someone with only slimes. To begin with, Conjurers and Slave Magic Users have less jobs compared to others. So most of the members of the Tamer Guild also register at the

Adventurer’s Guild and get jobs from there.

And so we went to the Adventurer’s Guild and just like the Adventurer’s Guild in Template we did not have any troubles with the hoodlums.

The guild rank goes from G to S, so there are 8 ranks. In general you can’t take jobs except for jobs on your level.

But if you were make a party and if several parties were to gather in the guild and take part in a large scale mission with many people the difficulty will go down, and you can take missions one to two ranks above your rank.

The registration requires one to at least be 10 years old, so I have that cleared. However, until the age of 13, the guild will need to check the

individual fighting abilities and will only be able to accept jobs that look like they will be able to bring out the results. Even if your rank were to be the same that is.

This is a safety measure to prevent kids who lack self-control from doing something reckless. Consequently, from 14 years old onwards that limitation and warning is removed, but of course if one were to fail the contract, one still has to take responsibility, pay the money for the breach of contract, loss of payment and of course the danger to one's own life.

Also when the town is exposed to danger, if one were to be in the town during that time the guild will hold a meeting and will have to attend. While it's possible to reject this, one would need a justifiable reason and a large amount of money to be excused.

Right now I am being made to wait at the back of the examination area after again receiving the explanation of Template. Because I'm under 13 years old they need to check my fighting abilities. However there is a problem here.

"Everyone, should I go at full strength?"

"Right… I'm uncertain whether or not you can receive a justifiable appraisal from the person at the Tamer's Guild. So you should go at all out here, you should show what you're capable of."

"Umu. That will be good."

"If there's something make sure you report it."

"Please do your best."

"Go at it while being relaxed."

As I was receiving various encouragements from everyone, the receptionist along with a man with a good body build, entered the practice area.

"You are the examiner for today?"

"Yes, my name is Ryouma Takebayashi. Please take care of me."

"And you guys would be his companions?"

"That's right, nice to meet you."

"Do feel free to watch, however, please don't try to meddle with the examination."

“Of course.”

After saying that the man faced me.

“The weapons you specialize in is a bow, huh? Alright, let’s begin right away. First off, hit those five targets from that line. The number is five. Hit the targets with one shot one at a time.”

I stood at the line exactly as I was ordered and aimed at the target I was ordered to aim at.

I opened my stance to shoulder-width, I nocked my arrow, pulled my bow, and accurately fired at my target. This entire movement was done without hesitation, smoothly quickly changing targets as I fired at my targets.

Without panicking, without making a fuss, just calmly shooting the five targets and after I’ve finished shooting.

The five arrows all pierced the center of their respective targets.

My ability to handle the bow has significantly increased since I came to this world. I also did archery in the past but I couldn’t shoot this fast in my past life.

Incidentally, the school I come from is not the modern time Kyuudou but Kyuujutsu, because of this I didn’t stop my movements like Kyuudou would in their Eight Stances of Shooting. I could stop midway if I wanted to, but the essence of the Kyuujutsu that has been passed on in my family, goes like this. However faster you can shoot, and how accurately you can shoot your enemy lies in following through with your bow. In the past if I were to stop even once for a moment, in the next instance, my dad’s fist and his abusive voice will come flying at me.

As soon as I finished shooting, I remembered such things. Recollecting something during the exam, I immediately looked at the man who was observing. He was already walking towards the target. And after confirming

everything separately, he went back.

“Everything was dead center. Even if you say that the targets weren’t moving, that was pretty good. The next one involves moving targets, look at the wall across.”

The wall he pointed at had pillars at either ends. And beside the pillars

was a hole.

“That was something proposed 300 years ago by an adventurer called Kengo who used a magic weapon called a shotgun. It's a magic tool that fires off projectiles for the sake of training.”

That’s definitely a guy who was transported. Hey, this is a world of sword and magic, and you brought a shotgun?

“He stopped being able to use the Magic Weapon and ended up at Rank C but he kept proposing the use of this equipment until he died, somehow in its own way it became a good story. To that extent this equipment has that kind of value for the sake of training.”

Stopped being able to use? Is it because of poor maintenance? No ammo?... That guy definitely pissed off the three gods! Otherwise he would have at least received a way to make ammo or maintain it… Unless you’re

upfront with those three gods they won’t give you appropriate support you know? As I was thinking that the explanation continued.

“Understood.”

“Then, the whistle will be the signal. Do your best.”

As he said that the guy handed me the quiver and he backed down. I held the bow in my hands and waited for the signal.

Chapter 13

TL Note: Kata (型 *)*

Right after Ryouma finished shooting the five targets Elia made a fuss and was very excited. However, the other four, after seeing Ryouma's abilities, were speechless.

"Amazing, Ryouma-san! Right!? Father!" [Elia]

"Ah, ah…" [Rheinhart]-san

"When using a bow I thought you had to be more careful aiming but it can actually be shot so fast, huh?" [Elia] At Elialia's words, Sebasu and Rheinbach were a little panicked and corrected her misunderstanding.

"Ojousama that's actually incorrect. What you've seen just now was a display of Ryouma-sama's ability, a normal archer wouldn't be able to display that kind of speed. Ryouma-sama's ability with the bow can't be compared to your run of the mill archer." [Sebasu]

"Elia, you can't use Ryouma as a standard. Because letting the arrows off at that speed, and hitting all the targets dead center is impossible for a normal person. It's highly probable that even amongst the soldiers of the country, the number of people that can do that are few." [Rheinbach]-sama

"Really? As expected, Ryouma-san is really amazing!" [Elia]

"Certainly, he's amazing, but…" [Rheinbach]-san

"We may have been underestimating Ryouma-sama's true strength." [Sebasu]

Ryouma doesn't have any self-awareness but with the practice he has had in his previous world coupled with the time he had spent hunting ever since he came to this world. The strength of his bow hand had actually already reached a distinguished level even amongst the soldiers of this country. But even though things may appear this way, he hasn't actually received any cheat from the gods outside of his magic abilities. Therefore, this is purely Ryouma's true strength.

Finishing the examination that involved still targets, the next examination was a pseudo clay pigeon shooting.

Ryouma stood at the place he was ordered to stand, and gripped his bow. But since the wall the targets are going to come out of is opposite the location where Elia and the rest are, Elia and the rest, five people in all, stood behind Ryouma and they, along with the examiner could not see the face of Ryouma.

If for example someone were to see Ryouma's face right now, how would they feel? At this moment, Ryouma has increased his concentration to the limit, being without a hint of impatience or tension, yet also without a hint of excitement or enthusiasm. There is tranquility but all the traces of any emotions have completely disappeared from Ryouma. That was not an expression that an 11 year old boy could possibly make.

Looking at Ryouma right now he may appear to be young, but he is in fact a man who has been training ever since his childhood in his previous life, bringing the time he has trained for to be nearly 40 years. Because of that he had acquired the power to concentrate and to stay calm. There were also plenty of times where he wasted time in his day to day life but he valued doing nothing except repetitively doing simple things.

On that point alone did even his colleagues and bosses who scorned him every day acknowledge him. And that's precisely why they used Ryouma like a convenient machine to do their work. But even then, Ryouma wasn't able to fully utilize the strength of his concentration.

The place where Ryouma was able to show his power the most was the martial arts he had gotten familiar with ever since his childhood. Ryoma traced the same kata every day, allowing the technique to permeate his body, and then, he moved his body naturally as if he was breathing. With the body already able to move at will, and having no obstructions in his heart to bind him, he becomes able to bring out his technique completely, to the limits. That is the true power of Ryouma, the talent of Ryouma.

In the past he matched his surrounding and controlled himself. Releasing the technique he had trained in the past wouldn't be forgiven. if he did that those around him would be frightened or would have been frightened. The law of Earth, common sense, that kind of thing which has been passed to the other world, right now… That kind of thing has nothing to do with Ryouma. Having escaped from the walls of the previous world, right here in this world, Ryouma released the true form of his full strength.

The examiner blew his whistle, and a target flew from the right pillar. Ryouma let loose an arrow at where the target was going. The target was pierced and it fell to the ground. The next target came out of the left pillar and again, Ryouma let loose an arrow at the direction the target was going, and it fell to the ground.

There is the question whether the target is going to come out from the right or the left, but what Ryouma has to do won't change. Using the techniques he had trained for a long time, completely seeing through the trajectory of the flying targets, and only earnestly driving the arrows through, repetitively.

Gradually the speed and the interval, at which the targets were being fired at changed, but Ryouma dealt with it.

When several targets came out at the same time, he shot through one first, and then quickly took the next arrow from his quiver and before disappearing into the hole on the opposite side, shot through it.

At the last moment, 4 targets came out at the same time but, Ryouma put the arrows in between all his fingers, immediately taking out 4 arrows from his quiver and in the blink of an eye he let loose four arrows and shot through all the targets. At that, he had used up all the arrows in his quiver and the whistle signifying the end of the examination was blown.

~Side Ryouma~

Fuu… Looks like I can finally rest…!!

"Wh–! Earth Needle!"

As I bring down my bow, a knife was thrown at me from behind. In response to that I caught the knife in between my fingers and then threw it back against the examiner.

That man unsheathed his sword and knocked the knife I threw at him down. At that opening I throw away the bow I have in my hand and at the same time use the Earth Magic, Earth Needle. From in front of my eyes, just above, a sharpened rod of stone began to grow. I kicked its roots, breaking it, and the instant it separated I wielded it as a spear.

"Stop! My bad, my bad, with this the exam is over. You've passed so please stop that dangerous thing."

Looks like the knife that was thrown at me was also a part of the exam. While keeping my guard up, I break the spear using Break Rock.

"Sorry about that, the knife I threw is something I generally do when holding these bow exams. A lot of people focus too much on the target and fail to keep their guard around them so it's my way of warning them about that.

And I'd tell them, if this was a forest and my knife was the attack of a magical beast then you'd be dead. Most of the guys would reply that this is an examination area and make an unhappy face. Then, there're also the

guys who would be understanding, or grateful, and even some who'd manage to barely dodge but you're the first one who actually fought back. And since I also don't have any problem with your bow, I won't put a limit on you, feel free to take missions according to your rank."

Looks like it really is a part of the examination… or rather it seems like it's because this guy is nosy. I let my guard down and then give my thanks.

"I understand. Thank you very much."

"Yeah, I'll be expecting lots from you, so do your best and don't push yourself too hard. Also, I'm the guild master of the Adventurer's Guild Branch of the Town of Gimuru, Wogan, nice to meet you."

This guy was a guild master!?

"Please take care of me. You were actually a guild master, huh?"

"Aah? Well that's… you guys…"

The Guild Master gave a fleeting side glance to my five companions and then said, "I don't know why but there's no way I could leave someone who was accompanied by several members of a Duke Household to some poor

guy."

Well that's true…

"You're right…"

"Really, why did the members of the Duke Household all come together to go with you?"

"I met the head, Rheinhart-sama by coincidence while I was hunting in the forest, after two weeks they invited me to go travel with them."

"What kind of setting is that..."

"Please pardon me for interrupting but it seems that the exam has concluded. May I have the pleasure of knowing the results?"

The one who intruded in our conversation was Sebasu-san. If one were to take a good look, it could be seen that Elialia has been itchingly waiting for the results.

"Oh, excuse me. He has passed with no problems, and I've decided not to limit his ability to accept missions since there seems to be no problem with his practical ability."

“I see. Congratulations, Ryouma-sama”

Elialia ran up to me and grabbed my hand, and went around in circles like she was dancing. Elia was really elated and it showed through her entire body… however, being this happy, I can’t help but be happy as well.

“Elia-sama, please let go of Ryouma-sama. Ryouma-sama still has some legal procedures to complete.”

“Oh! Right…”

“Thank you very much, Sebasu-san.”

After that I went to a different room… or rather I went to the office of the Guild Master and registered for the Adventurer’s Guild.

“Well then, I’ve said it before Ryouma. I will not be putting a limit on you and so I’ll record that in your Guild Card. Like this you’ll be able to take missions of the same rank as you, as you wish. But do be careful.”

“Yes, I’ll do my best.”

“Actually, just based on your abilities I can have you start from Rank E but because of your age, if you were to accept a Rank E mission you’ll stand out. If you do that all of the sudden, you might end up receiving the ill will of the people around you. So go start off from Rank G and steadily show your ability.”

“Thank you very much for your concern.”

“Ah– stop, stop. You don’t have to use polite speech with me. It’s bothersome. That aside… who taught you how to use a bow? An Elf?”

“My grandpa did, but he’s not an elf, he’s a dwarf.”

“A dwarf, huh? A dwarf that uses a bow is pretty rare but, it’s not like they don’t exist at all. They’re a race that’s particularly handy with their hands, so I guess there was such an expert with the bow who wasn’t an elf, huh?

Well whatever… With this we‘ve finished your registration, after that… you should take this with you.”

The Guild Master gave to me one envelope.

“What is this?”

“It’s an introduction to a blacksmith I know. In this town you’re probably strong enough to handle one or two guys but they’re a bunch of stubborn workers so with you being too young there’s a possibility they might just

turn you away at the gate. You flicked off my knife and from your movements after that, you can also use a spear, yeah? Over there, there's a bunch so go find a suitable weapon over there. As for armor, it's not their specialty but they also have quite a bit there. It's better than buying from a bad store."

I'm honestly grateful for this.

"Thank you very much. When I need a new weapon I'll definitely go."

I give my thanks and leave the room of the Guild Master.

And now that the day has gotten dark, I went back to our lodging with the other five who were waiting for me in a different room.

At that I remembered something.

"Sebasu-san, is it possible to receive stones for the purpose of making a stone statue of a god in this lodging as well?"

"Yes, it's possible. Are you going to make another one?"

"Actually, in my baptism today I received the divine protection of a god I've never prayed to before… so I thought I'd make that person's statue." *(TL Note: he uses the polite version when saying that person.)*

"I see… then, if Ryouma-sama does not mind me asking, may I know whose divine protection it is that you have received?"

"It's the divine protection of the God of Wine, Tekun. Or so it shows in my status board."

"The God of Wine, Tekun, was it? It's rare for a human to receive his divine protection, Tekun-sama is a god of wine and at the same time the god of arts and craft. And is fundamentally worshipped by the dwarves. Would you happen to know why he would give you his protection?"

"My grandpa who picked me up, happens to be a dwarf. And I also helped out a little in my grandpa's smithy."

"I see, so that's the reason. It's highly probable that during that period something happened and Ryouma-sama gained Tekun-sama's favor. However, I'm quite concerned why Ryouma-sama did not receive the Divine

Protection of the God of Craftsmanship instead."

"Divine Protection of the God of Craftsmanship?"

"The divine protection that Tekun-sama gives has two kinds. One is the

Divine Protection of the God of

Craftsmanship, and the other is the Divine Protection of the God of Wine. The effects are, of course, different.

I've heard that the former divine protection allows the blessed one's skill in smithing and the likes to increase faster, and will be able to produce good products. As for the latter, the effect goes that no matter how much one drinks wine, one won't end up dead drunk and won't get a hangover. And also, the opportunities to find good wine will increase. This is quite envious but even if its found out, it's not something that would cause problems."

"Is that so…"

"Well let's put that aside. If Ryouma-sama is going to make a statue for Tekun-sama, then I believe this stone should be able to serve that purpose well."

As Sebasu-san said that he took something out of his item box. It's one of the stones I made out of the earth and sand of the landslide.

"This…"

"This is the stone that Ryouma-sama had made. We brought these here since the size is fixed and there're plenty of these, so we thought it could be sold in the town and help with Ryouma-sama's daily expenses. I did this because I believe Ryouma-sama would probably refuse mine, as well the Madam's and the rest's support."

"Thank you for going out of your way to do this for me."

"Please don't mind it. Also in regards to the stone statue, I've heard that Tekun-sama dislikes unnecessarily extravagant things. So it would be best to use cheaper materials when creating Tekun-sama's statue, and then creating the statue elaborately with all of one's own heart. And also offering a wine in front of the statue is best.

The picture of Tekun-sama can also be bought just like the stones, and since it's the lodging we can buy wine as well."

"Then let's go buy."

I went with Sebasu-san to the employee's area, talked about my situation, and was told that a high class alcohol that was very hard to get had just arrived.

I was planning to just buy 3 bottles of that wine for the purpose of giving it as an offering, but Sebasu-san's eyes'

color suddenly changed and he bought two barrels. Apparently it's Rheinbach-sama's favorite brand of alcohol, but because it isn't produced outside of a certain limit for the year, it's extremely difficulty to acquire.

Thanks to Ryouma-sama's protection, or so Sebasu-san said as he gave his thanks with an amazing smile. From the looks of it, it's not just Rheinbach-sama but also Sebasu-san who likes this wine.

After that I went back to my room, made the statue, offered the wine, took a bath with the Cleaner Slime and then retired for the day.

Chapter 14

~ Side Ryouma ~

This morning Sebasu-san informed me that the members of the Duke's Family will be going to the office of the prefectural governor to meet him today. So like that I ended up by myself. The madam told me that it's not good to walk around the town by myself and to stay in the lodging instead, but I can't do that.

Since I've finally been registered to the guild, I figured I'd try to get a request. First off, how about a generic herb collection quest?

I drag out of my item box, a basket attached to a wooden rack with shoulder straps that can be worn on my back, specifically made for the purpose of collecting things in the forest. I then put my slime inside that and go to the guild. As I look for the requests available for a G Rank, I find that there are requests to help out with Herb Collection, Sweeping, Moving Houses… etc.

At first I thought of accepting the request to help for collecting herbs but, it seems even if I don't take it now and just take it once I get the herbs would also be fine. So I can just get a different mission and then get the herbs as I come back.

As I thought that I looked for missions other than herb collecting, and then by chance I found two sheets of written requests that stood out.

The contents were sweeping the house and cleaning the shared toilet.

The house aside, the shared toilet can be dealt with by the Scavenger Slime and the magic I came up with.

Thinking that, I went to the reception and asked about these two requests.

"Excuse me, I have something I want to ask."

"Welcome, what would you like to know?"

"Yes, may I know the specifics of these two requests?"

"Let me see... this request, huh? Hmm… quite a bit of time has passed since these requests has been put up.

Basing on the contents alone it may seem like a normal cleaning job but it stinks and it's dirty so no one wants to do it. And also the size…"

"Is it big?"

"Very much, actually. First off this thing about sweeping the house, well the thing is this person's house is right next to a dump site. The client's also unhappy about it but she got it cheap so she just endured it. But in these past few months, the wall of the basement separating the house from the dump site collapsed, and so the trash of the dump site ended up falling into the basement. And then because of the smell the family was troubled so they wanted someone to deal with it. But unless the wall is fixed the trash will just keep going in, but then in order to fix the wall, somehow someway you need to do something about the trash so it's really just walking in circles.

And then there's this shared toilet… originally the public office should have employed people with slimes but it seems no matter how much the public office tried to pay they got refused. So with no one to pump out the toilet, this request has been left here for 5 months already. There have also been complaints about the smell coming so…

they probably won't be able to keep it under the rug soon…"

"So there were concerns about catching diseases… because of the two cases…"

"Ara, that's pretty smart of you. Amazing. That's exactly right, it's easy to catch diseases in a dirty place. That's why they want something to be done about it but no one wants to take the request. In the first place, if the office were to pay properly then there's no way the people with slimes would refuse. Because the places where they can work are few, so it's hard to imagine them picking their jobs since they're desperate in trying to make a living."

"Specifically, how big are these two cases?"

"The house has a 200 sqm basement, and as for the common toilets, there are 30 7m-wide, 2km-deep, latrine pits.

It's one pit per job for the common toilet."

"And the contents of the trash? As for the toilet I think I can figure it out by myself…"

"Mainly food scraps for the garbage. And aside from that just the wastes from working with wood."

If it's like that then I guess I can make the Scavenger Slime eat it…

“I see… then can I accept the request of the case regarding the house.”

“Eh!? You’re accepting it!?”

“Yes, since I have a magic for cleaning that’s convenient to use. Although because it takes up a lot of magic, there’s not lot of people that use it.”

“So that’s how it is~ then please bring out your guild card. There’s no time limit but if you try to pull out midway you’ll have to pay a fine.”

“I understand.”

As I said that I left the guild, and went to the house of the client. The house of the client was in the eastern part of the Town of Gimuru. Even inside the residential district there was an area where cheap house were lined up.

I knock on the door of the house… let’s knock one more time… no one’s still coming out… are they out? … I knock one more time but this time I call out as well.

“Hello anyone there! I’m someone from the Adventurer’s Guild who accepted your request to clean up!”

The moment I said that, I heard a sound that said dodododo! And the door was opened forcefully.

“Is it true you came here to clean nya!?”

The one who came out had cat ears on her head and a tail attached to her waist, a woman of the cat man tribe. I knew about them but this is my first time seeing one in the flesh. It’s unfortunate though that my first time meeting with a beast man had to be accompanied by the horrifying stench of food scraps. However as a former Japanese that had worked on the service industry, my smile won’t break!

“Yes, my name is Ryouma Takebayashi and I’ve been dispatched by the Adventurer’s Guild. Is it fine with the client?”

“That’s right nya!? You really came to clean nya! I already gave up nya~!”

“Well then please confirm the request.”

“Yes, yes! There’s no mistake nya! I am the client Miya nya! I’m really thankful you came nya!”

“Please do give me your thanks after the request has been fulfilled.”

“Uwaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!”

What’s up with this guy!? She suddenly cried… wait, what should I do in

this situation?

“W–wait! Please calm down, ok?”

“I’m sorry nya… I’m happy… because all the adventurers that had come here seemed really reluctant and kept complaining… and everyone stopped and went home midway nya… there were also people who couldn’t bear the smell as soon as they got to the front door and went home… even the people who said they’d do it until the end like you also left…”

All the adventurers until now, do try to endure it… there may be diseases, but it won't be at the entrance, right?

“Then, I want to start as soon as possible, the place I’m to work at is the basement, right?”

“That’s right nya. But, what do you plan to do nya?”

“I heard that the trash is made up food scraps and remnants of wood. In that case I have a convenient magic I can use.”

“Eh, really nya?”

“Yes, the consumption of magic power is high so not a lot of people use it. And besides I also have my slave monster.”

“You were a Slave Magic User nya? Well to be honest as long as it ends up being clean, anything is fine nya.

Then please take care of it quickly nya.”

“Understood. Just to be sure, Miya-san doesn’t having anything important in the basement right?”

“None nya, to begin with the basement wasn’t even used as a storage room nya. And even if there was,

considering it’s buried inside that trash, might as well throw it away nya.”

“Then in that case I’ll finish this quickly, and completely dispose of everything in the basement. This will be fine, yes?”

“Yes nya. Please take care of it nya.”

“Then please allow me to enter. Where’s the entrance to the basement?”

“Over here nya.”

Miya-san brought me to a staircase that continued down to the basement. When I went down that staircase, there was a door there which I opened,

and through that door what lay before me was a large amount of trash and swarms of flies.

I close the door once, and take the Huge Scavenger Slime from that basket rack I equipped a while ago. And then I open the door for a second time, allowing the Huge Scavenger Slime to enter, and then I tell it to separate in my mind.

Immediately the slime began to split and filled the room to the ceiling. At that moment I made the slimes release foul odor. Immediately the flies started gathering to the slimes and were eaten.

From then on I just made the Scavenger Slime do nothing else but eat the food scraps. If one were to see me right now it'd look like I'm just playing hooky, but I put up a barrier magic and have hidden myself.

I've mostly made the Scavenger Slimes eat trash for the past 20 minutes or so, but just as the guild had mentioned, the trash just keeps going in through the hole.

From the looks of things this house was built underneath a hill, to add to that there's a dump site over there, so what happens is the garbage smoothly falls down the hill and ends inside this basement. Who made a house in this kind of place?

Settling this problem is pretty simple, the answer… make the Scavengers eat until it stops! That's it, only, it might be problematic if the slimes end up going outside so I put up a Barrier of Concealment over at the dumpsite. That way we can't be seen from the outside and won't end up causing a commotion. Even if I'm found out, I'm with the Slave Magic Users, so it'll be fine, but just in case.

In the end it's been 1 hour since I've put the barrier until the trash was completely eaten.

But what's up with the body of these guys? It's not like they're a bunch of gluttons as they're mileage is pretty good, but, it looks like they can eat whatever's been given to them.

Well in any case the trash has been rid of but the walls are still dirty. This is where I come in. I make the Scavenger Slimes and Cleaner Slimes shoot out deodorization liquid against the inner wall and the outer wall of the room, and once the smell's been dealt with I wash it with water.

"Mist Wash."

The water magic, Mist Wash, sprays out compressed water and gets rid of dirt. When I was researching magic in the forest, I tried to reproduce the high pressure water cutting magic, Water Cut, but failed. I noticed that

the rock I hit with it was cleaner than before, and remembered there was something like this in my previous world, and so like this I considered it to be useful as a cleaning magic.

This magic can get rid of stubborn dirt. But while this magic is being used, it uses up magic power, so cleaning one room with it would take up quite a bit of magic power. It has the advantage of being able to be used as long as one keeps pouring magic into it, but the consumption is like an incontinent person that keeps pissing magic away.

So I think unless one has a lot of magic power, this magic is quite difficult to use.

After washing it I had the Scavenger Slime drink the dirty water.

After washing the wall it became clean. But I'm still concerned about the hole in the wall. It'd be careless to leave it like this, so I might as well somehow close it up.

I make a brick from the earth outside using Create Block, and in the same way using Create Block I trim the hole into a square. And then using the Sticky Hardening Liquid of the Sticky Slime as a substitute for cement I filled in the hole with the brick. Adding in the help of the Slimes, it took us around 20 minutes to finish.

I've finished everything I can do, so I have the Cleaner Slime clean me up and put the Slimes back into my wooden rack with shoulder straps and then go over to where Miya-san is.

"Miya-san."

"Nya!? Wh–what's wrong nya? Are you leaving…?"

"Certainly, I'm about to leave. Since everything is already finished."

"…nya? Eh, what do you mean?"

I brought Miya-san with a question mark floating over her head to the basement. When Miya-san saw the clean basement her mouth opened wide to the point it looked like her jaw was about to fall off.

"Nya… what did you do nya!?"

"Cleaning."

"Amazing nya! It really became clean nya! The trash kept going in so until now no one has managed to clean it nya! Come to think of it the hole's being filled up too!?"

"Well since trash would go back in, I used Earth Magic and filled it up

with the stone I made. There's some different stones around that might be conspicuous, if it's ugly I can remove it."

"No need nya! I don't mind and, once it's been cleaned it up I'd been intending to block it. So, rather than saying it's ugly I'm grateful nya."

"Is that so, then if that's the case… can we consider the request to have been completed?"

"Of course nya. Since you've managed to clean it up this fast, and even fixed the wall I'll increase the payment nya!"

"Thank you very much."

I received Miya-san's sign on the document for the request, and went back to the guild to go report to the receptionist that explained to me the details of the request.

"Excuse me."

"Ara, it's this morning's…"

"I came to report about the completion of the request."

"Eh? Completion? You didn't abandon?"

"It was completed."

As I said that I brought out the document for the request.

"You're right… it was completed, and also the pay was even increased… you're amazing. No one could complete this request for a long time, you know? Since the smell is thick and no matter how much you clean it up, trash just keeps going through the hole, so people who became downhearted just kept coming one after another, you know?

To think that you were able to finish this request without even taking 2 hours…"

"It's because I had a really convenient magic."

"Oh that's right, well good job. With this the report for the completion of the request has been completed, the compensation inside is 30 pieces of silver."

"Eh? Isn't quite a bit much?"

"Well the client, Miya-san, was quite troubled since people kept refusing this request, so she kept increasing the price. Plus she also instructed to increase your remuneration."

“I see, I understand.”

“Also, the Guild Master said to call you when you came back.”

“The Guild Master?”

When I asked that, the one who answered me wasn’t the woman in front of me but the guy who was doing some legal work on the nearby counter.

“Don’t worry, it’s nothing big. It’s just the usual.”

“What do you mean? Ah… I am Ryouma Takebayashi by the way.”

“I’m Jeff Granger. That old man… the guild master, is a nosy guy so, adventurers, especially newbies like you that’s under 13 years old, he usually calls out to try and help. He also helped me out when I was a new comer. He may seem like your run of the mill bandit, but there’s no need to be scared.”

“Is that how it is, thank you very much?”

“Don’t mind it.”

Right after that a voice from inside the counter called us. The one who called us was the Guild Master.

“That’s exactly right, so you don’t need to give thanks to that guy.”

“Ah, Guild Master.”

“Ge! Old man.”

“And who looks like a bandit you bastard!”

“Old man anyone who looks at you would say you look like a bandit!”

“Shaddap! I can’t help my face! But I’m not making a crooked face like a bandit!”

“Women and children run while screaming when they meet you in the dead of night, right?”

“Gu… if it’s the people of this town then there’s no problem…”

“Well that’s because everyone has already gotten used to it!”

“Gufuu! … Enough… Ryouma, come.”

The Guild Master who was hurt by Jeff’s words put his heart under control, and went back inside while calling me. I gave my greetings to the receptionist lady and Jeff-san and go after the Guild Master.

And then I got to the place where I went to yesterday, the room of the Guild Master.

“Sit somewhere appropriate… or wait, that thing you’re carrying on your back is that a basket? It stands out a lot.”

“Please excuse me. Inside this basket is my Slave Monster.”

“You were a Slave Magic User? I thought you were surely a hunter.”

“Well my Slave Monster is only a Slime and I learned Slave Magic just by observing. I’m a hunter that can use Slave Magic. I have my Sticky Slimes work with my traps and have my Poison Slimes poison my arrows.”

Hearing that the Guild Master grinned laughing, and said this…

“You have a pretty dirty combination, huh?”

“You think? It’s a Slime after all.”

“I do it myself so I understand but if it was just a slime then it’d be fine but, a high class race isn’t something to be made light of. There’s a lot of adventurers who would group slimes and high class slimes together and think they’re weak, but a high class slime with an adventurer that can fight isn’t thought to be weak. If one gets hit by the acid of a slime, their equipment will go bad. If it ends up as long fight, then when one goes home the new tools will be crumbling. If it’s poison then one’s life will be put in danger, and Sticky Slimes are a pain the ass. If a different magical beast comes while you can’t move, then you’re life’s over.”

“I see… then if that’s the case, work at the Adventurer’s Guild becomes easier, huh? Actually when I registered that I use Slimes at the Tamer Guild, the Branch Manager clearly showed that he wasn’t pleased with me and seemed to have decided that I’d be incompetent.”

“From the times I’ve met that guy, I’d say it’s just because that bastard’s pride is too big!”

“Yes, since the slime can’t do jobs that require strength, and besides I also went to look for jobs that don’t require strength, today.”

“I see… Right, that talk about work. I heard that you already took a job today, it looks like it went well?”

“Yes, the client was quite pleased and even gave me a bonus.”

“Ho–, that’s pretty good for a first job. I didn’t hear anything except for cleaning, but what kind of job did you take?”

“I cleaned the house of the client called Miya-san.”

When the Guild Master heard that he stared at me in wonder.

“You cleaned that girl’s house?”

“Did you know about it?”

“Well yeah… I mean Miya is also an adventurer that lives in this town. She comes quite frequently to the guild so I hear quite a bit.”

“Is that so?”

“But… to actually fulfill that request, you were able to clean up, right?”

“Yes.”

“I didn’t think that there would actually be a person that could clean that girl’s house… and, how did you do it?”

“I had a magic that was good for the situation. It’s something that can be used when one has a lot of magic so it’s a rather hard to use magic, and so not a lot of people know about it.”

“Ho–? Then in that case I have another request I’d like you to take…”

Perhaps…

“Is it the request to clean the Town’s shared toilet?”

“Oh so you knew about it?”

“Yes, today, before taking a request, I was wondering which one I should take.”

“Then in that case the talk will be quick. The public office has brought out a cleaning request, and I don’t want the townsmen to say that the reason it wasn’t cleaned was because of the guild. The complaints have been coming in. Speaking of which, originally the cause was because the public office was stingy with bringing out money for the sake of the slum.”

“The receptionist lady also mentioned that, is that true?”

“Aah, it’s true. Did you know that in these past few years, this town’s income has been decreasing?”

“If I’m correct it’s because of the decreasing production rate of the mine, right?”

“Right, there’s also the condition of the mine since last year. And also this year, the abandonment of the mine will be decided. So because of that the income of the town has been quite bad. So the public office has been

trying to cut costs but… they've been mainly cutting down on the town's administrative expenses so, the blame's been shifted on to the people of the town. The ones that have really been put into a disadvantage is the slum. Until now the public office has been cutting down on the number of employees to manage labor cost but as a result the number of people helping out became insufficient.

The work won't end so they started saying that the people aren't working properly and won't pay them properly.

There's been a lot of complaints from the townsmen, so although they want to try hiring the people of the slum's and add to that, that they gave the reason that the people of the slums won't work properly and tried hiring them with a salary of next to nothing, in the end even the guys from the slum didn't want to take it up.

No matter how troubled someone is over money, if the price doesn't match with the work the people of the slum won't work. And it's not like they're asking for much. It's just that they can't have a decent lifestyle so it's easy for them to get sick. And if they work for almost for free then the risk of getting sick will just get higher."

I see…

"I understand, I'll prepare and accept it quickly. If it's fast then I can take it by tomorrow."

"You're a big help, thanks. The rewards will be plentiful."

"Please take care of me."

Incidentally, I should also try talking to Rheinhart-san and the rest, since the one that holds the most influence is them. And besides they'll also want to know what I did today, so I figured if they knew about this then they'll know how to respond.

"…what are you thinking?"

Did it show on my face?

"No, today I'm acting by myself so I thought I'd ask a couple of things from the people who accompanied me to register yesterday"

Hearing that, Guild Master grinned laughingly.

As he made that face, I thought about what Jeff-san said, and certainly, it was really like the face a bandit would make...

"You have a pretty good personality, huh? And, do you think you they'll help?"

“Of course, even just knowing them, I think they’ll help.”

“Your basis?”

“Well I don’t really have much to base it on but… I’m an orphan without anywhere to go and lived in the forest.

There, I recently met everyone by chance. After that I’ve bothered them quite a bit here and there. They did that much for someone like me whom they barely knew. Just me aside though, there’s no way they’ll be able to treat everyone in the slums just as they’ve treated me, right? But, I don’t think they’re the kind of people who wouldn’t feel anything knowing the current situation.”

“I see.”

“Yes. Well then, I should be going soon, since I want to finish my preparations for tomorrow.”

“Yeah, I’ll leave it to you. When you get here I’ll immediately tell them to prioritize that request. Well it’s nothing even if it’s prioritized since no one wants to take it.”

“You said it.”

Saying that, I left the room of the Guild Master as I laughed and then went back home. On the way I went to look for some cloths for western clothes and sewing tools. I found some cheap ones and bought a set, then I also bought an empty spool of thread.

Chapter 15

~Side Ryouma~

I put the things I bought into my item box, went back to our lodging and started working.

First off, I rubbed the Sticky Liquid of the Sticky Slime on the surface of the cloth, and then through a combination of the basic Wind Magic, Breeze, and the basic fire magic, Fire, used the magic, Dryer, to dry a large number of waterproof cloths.

Like this the afternoon passed. When it comes to managing the magic power, it's easy if it's just the same attribute, but it becomes difficult when different magic attributes are being combined.

In the past when I made a mistake controlling Dryer, the wind of Breeze mixed with Fire and created an amazing blaze. In that way I was somehow able to fire off an attack magic, Flame Thrower but, if I do something like that here, it won't be funny.

Next, I had the Sticky Slime spit me some threads, and then wound it on that unwound spool of thread I bought.

The strength of the Sticky Slime's thread depends on the ratio of the Sticky Liquid to the Hardening Liquid. So it's quite easy to change the strength of the thread to match one's goal.

If one sets the ratio of Sticky Liquid to Hardening Liquid as 7:3, then the thread will become a pretty and soft sewing thread. At 6:4 it becomes a robust thread. At 5:5 it becomes a kind of thread that can be used in traps because of its elasticity, and possesses strength that will break when animals and people were to pull on it. At 4:6

it becomes a lethal string that can be used to strangle animals and people.

In this past when I went to check the strength of the 4:6 thread. I set up several strands of it between two trees and lured the Black Bear there. The Black Bear was only able to endure once and small incisions could be seen on the Black Bear's body.

At that time I thought that depending on the usage, this thread could become a horrifying trap, so I agitatedly put it in the back of my head. I

mostly haven't used it since encountering the goblins.

An exception to this is that I tried to create a guitar from my previous world using a tree and a trimmed down version of this string as guitar string. There's strength but as long as you only touch it, it won't cut you. From here on out if I look for it, there should be ways where it can be safely used.

Going back to the topic

After completely spooling the 6:4 robust thread, what's next is cutting the waterproof cloth. So I cut and divided the waterproof cloth into several parts.

What I want to make is the jumpsuit and the waders (waterproof pants) from my previous world. Starting

tomorrow I'm going to be cleaning the latrine pits, and even if I left it to the Scavenger Slimes, and even if the Cleaner Slimes could clean me, I still don't want to go there in my normal clothes. So I figured I should prepare beforehand.

After finishing the pseudo-waders, I heard someone knocking on my door.

"Ryouma-sama, I have heard that you have returned but how are you doing?"

It was Sebasu-san so I hurriedly opened the door.

"I'm here."

"Is everything ok?"

"Yes, there's nothing wrong in particular."

"According to the servants, Ryouma-sama went out in the morning, came back in the afternoon, and without having lunch, have isolated himself here all this time."

Ah… now that I think about it, I didn't have lunch, huh?

"I'm sorry, I was a bit overzealous with my work and forgot about lunch… did I make you guys worry?"

"If it's alright please show your face to everyone. Especially to the madam and the Ojousama. And also, if it's something like sewing then Ryouma-sama could do that in the Madam's room and the 2 maids could even help out."

Perfect. I was just wondering how I could try to move the conversation to that direction. I toss the tools and the cloths into my item box, and go to the room of the Duke's Family along with my Slimes.

As soon as I got to the room, Elia and the Madam jumped at me.

"Are you alright!? Nothing happened!?"

"Ryouma-kun! Are you alright? You're not hurt?"

"Now, now, you two, please calm down."

"Ryouma-kun won't be able to talk if you press him like that you know?"

Interjected Rheinbach-sama and Rheinhart-san as they stopped and separated the two.

"My apologies for making you worry. There are no problems in particular, I just became caught up with my work and forgot to have my meal."

The madam heaved a sigh of relief.

"I see, that's good."

"And I thought something had happened." Pouted the Ojousama.

"Ho, ho, ho, isn't it good that nothing had happened?" Chuckled Rheinbach-sama.

"What work are you talking about?"

"It's sewing. I made some clothes for doing some janitorial work."

As I said that, I took out the tools from my item box and showed it to them.

Rheinbach-sama looked at it scrutinizingly and said, "Fumu… by the looks of things you also applied the

waterproofing treatment on these, huh?"

"Yes, I started working on these, as soon I got back and ended up spending the rest of the afternoon. After that are these things which I'm still making."

"Why did you suddenly start making those things?" inquired Rheinbach-sama.

Hearing that, I explained what happened today while sewing.

"… and so I ended up accepting that janitorial request. Since it'd also be troublesome if diseases were to start spreading around, so I want to get started as soon as possible."

"Mu…"

"I understand your reason, and I'm also grateful to know this. The public office of this town didn't mention anything like this… we may have almost been tricked. Sebasu." said Rheinhart-san as he called Sebasu-san.

"Yes?"

"Go out into the town and gather some information on whether the public office really did what was mentioned just now. If it's true then the administrative expenses should have gone down this year. However, according to the report today, it hasn't been changed. So there's a possibility that someone's taking advantage of the decrease in the mining rate of the mine and is embezzling funds."

"Understood."

As Sebasu-san said that, he left the room.

"Ryouma-kun, thank you. Because of you we may actually end up uncovering a conspiracy."

"Umu. I could forgive simply embezzling, but embezzling the money that should be used for the townspeople and harming them is not something I can forgive. In the first place we have already decided on how much to pay the people living in the slums decades ago. That they would actually try to bargain it down, unforgivable! Wasting my efforts…"

"Rheinbach-sama's efforts?"

The one who responded was the madam,

"In order to help out the people living in the slums, in the past my father-in-law went through great pains to establish those people living in the slums as the ones in charge of cleaning the community toilet."

Hearing the madam's words, Rheinbach-sama continued.

"In the past I notified the prefectural governors of all the towns and made them construct facilities. And being unable to believe the words that the people of the slum would be employed, I had to go several times all the

way to the management of the slum and negotiate. In the end it took 30 years to give all the jobs relating to construction to them. That's why, when I think that all that effort is being put to waste, I can't help but find it mortifying."

Rheinhart-san hearing his father's frustration spoke.

"Dad was once famous for being a good feudal lord. There were many nobles who came to study the management of territory. That's why, if this really is true, then it won't be forgiven. Even if other's forgive it, the Jamil Household will not forgive it."

Rheinbart-sama looked at me and spoke again with a hint of gratefulness on his face.

"Ryouma-kun, truly, thank you. I'm glad we were able to get wind of this information while we were here. At the very least we were able to confirm that something is amiss. Besides if everything went exactly as we had planned for it to go, this kind of request shouldn't have come out."

"You're welcome."

"Umu, let's have the maids help you out with making those clothes. Araune, Lilian, please help him out."

The two maids replied synchronously, "Understood."

With the maids about to help me out, I explained to them what we will be doing. The gloves were assigned to Lilian-san, and the jumpsuit, to Araune-san. I started to knit the cord that will be used for a variety of things but as soon as Araune-san and Lilian-san saw the threads they asked me.

"Ryouma-sama, what kind of thread is this? I've never seen such a thin, robust, smooth, and pretty thread."

"Ahh… This is a Sticky Slime's thread."

"Do Slimes spit out threads!?"

"Just Sticky Slimes, and also, it's probably only my Sticky Slime. I wonder if I could create something out of the Sticky Liquid and the Hardening Liquid, so I tried mixing them up and ended up with that thread, and then I wondered whether the Slime will also be able to do the same thing, so I had the Slimes try it out and it seems they were able to. It was especially convenient when making clothes in the forest."

After I said that, I called the Big Slime over and had it spit some thread.

“See, it can spit out thread in this way. Moreover you can modify how strong the thread is by changing the ratio of the two kinds of liquid.”

After showing the two maids, several sizes of threads, the two maids ended up wanting to buy some of the threads.

“I couldn’t possibly do that. I’m already imposing on you like this, so if you want some threads, I’ll make as much as you want.”

When they heard that, the two were greatly overjoyed. Apparently, despite having served the Household of the Duke for a long time and making countless clothes, Araune-san has never seen a thread this good. Well since I’ve always seen synthetic fibers back in Earth, I never really noticed.

Afterwards, Rheinhart-san decided with me, to start selling the rain gears along with this thread. As we continued to converse, I found out that the previous feudal lord, Rheinbach-sama, conducted large scale maintenances on the villages he owns and because of that, the towns of the Jamil Duchy were famous for being number one in terms of cleanliness, and were even famous amongst the neighboring countries.

And in order to further prosper the towns that Rheinhart-san’s father maintained, he thought of spurring the businesses in the region.

It seems that the Slime products that I unintentionally developed were very attractive to him. He bowed his head down, and said, “Let’s work together for a long time.”, and then I nodded as well and said, “Please take care of me.”

Since the people of the Jamil Household are really nice, I also wanted to work with them.

As we continued to talk like that, I finished making my clothes. And there didn’t seem to be any problems on the size when I tried wearing it but…

Putting on the gloves, I put my hands through the sleeves, and wrapped the cord I made around the only open space on the jumpsuit I’m wearing, which would be my wrist, thereby blocking anything dirty from going in.

With this I am completely waterproofed, up and down all over, and I even secured the shoes I’m wearing with the cord I made. Seeing me, everyone mentioned that I looked strange.

However, from the perspective of using them as work clothes, the value is

certainly high. And although it's still not decided, Rheinhart-san mentioned that we might also sell this.

————————————————

The Next Day.

Having with me the set of worker clothes I made yesterday and with the Slimes with me, I let everyone know that I'll be going out.

"I'll be going."

"Good luck."

"Please take care, Ryouma-san."

"Do you best, ok?"

"We'll also do our part here and there."

Having been sent off by everyone, I went to the guild.

"Good morning."

"Ara, it's the kid from yesterday. It was Ryouma-kun, right? You came."

"Yes, I want to accept a request…"

"Un, I heard about it. By the way thanks, ok? For taking this request. We were really troubled about it."

"Well then, please complete the legalities."

"Yes, ye~s… alright this is ok. Take this request document, and go to the people from the West District, ok? And also, this is the key for the Latrine pits, don't lose it alright?"

"Understood. Well then, please excuse me."

"Take care."

I left the guild and arrived at the western most part of the town where the entrance to the latrine pit is. I wear the jumpsuit and the pseudo-waders, and try to go through the entrance but instead I immediately close the door without entering. You understand the reason, right? A Latrine pit that has been left for 5 months, it's bound to have a horrifying smell.

The moment that smell wafted to my nose, I cried a bit. But, the

Scavengers looked ok, so I had them go in first, had them split, and ordered them to deal with it.

I also asked for help from the Cleaner Slimes and had them soak a hand towel I had with me with deodorization liquid, which I put on my mouth, to deal with the smell.

It also gets to my eyes so I had the Cleaner Slime go on top of my head, and have him cover my eyes like a goggle. The Cleaner Slimes' body has high transparency so I was able to go forward without any problems.

Cleaner Slime's are quite useful.

Having gone inside completely, there were some stairs inside. Going down that was a huge subterranean tunnel.

In the center of that tunnel were a huge amount of filth accumulating on both sides. The Scavenger Slimes crowded together and did their best to deal with it. As for me I washed off the filth sticking to the roof and the walls with the magic, Mist Wash, and then heated the sticking water to disinfect it with my original Electric Magic, Range.

It was a bit too dirty so I wanted to make it cleaner somehow, but from the looks of things I succeeded. I check it out with the skill, "Identify" and…

It went from [Unclean Ceiling – A Ceiling Stuck With Filth Here and There] to [Stone Ceiling].

Looks I was able to successfully clean the roof of the community toilet's latrine pit after disinfecting it through cleaning and heating.

The information I got changed from an unclean ceiling to a stone ceiling. After that, I took a look at the detailed information and it looks like the disinfection was a success. … But, I have always wondered, where is this information coming from? Well, since no incorrect information has come out yet, I guess its fine, it is quite convenient at times like this.

In the end I was able to clean one pit and it took me around 5 hours, but, I took another 3 hours after that.

Because of today and yesterday, the Scavenger Slimes have eaten a lot and have gotten a lot of nourishments, so I had already planned to have them split since I knew about that as an effect of the Slave Monster Contract. Hence, in order to keep them from the eyes of other people, I had the Slimes spilt here. Anyhow there's another 29 pits like this one.

The end result of the splitting was 1464. Before splitting it was at 730 so one of them split twice and ended up as 4 bodies.

After that I took a look at the skills of the Slime, at which I broke out into a cold sweat.

Old Skills:

Scavenger Slime x 730			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv5	Poison Resist Lv5	Eat Filth Lv5	Cleaning Lv6
Deodorization Lv6	Deodorization Liquid Lv4	Release Stench Lv4	Return Nutrients Lv3
Jump Lv2	Digestion Lv6	Absorption Lv3	Split Lv6

Current Skills:

Scavenger Slime x 1464			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv7	Poison Resist Lv6	Eat Filth Lv6	Cleaning Lv7
Deodorization Lv7	Deodorization Liquid Lv5	Release Stench Lv5	Return Nutrients Lv5
Jump Lv3	Digestion Lv7	Absorption Lv3	Split Lv6

The skill levels went up all across the board. Moreover, the Disease Resist actually increased two levels. That's very concerning.

The others are fine, there's no problem with them. But you know… for Disease Resist to increase, it's necessary for there to be a factor that will cause a disease, you know? In other words… this is a breeding place of diseases!!!

No, do you actually understand? This is hard to say because a place where filth is collected is bound to be a breeding ground for diseases. But you know… the Madam had previously mentioned that the Disease Resist of level 5 is at a level that can't be reached unless one goes through a life threatening disease.

And it's from that level that it suddenly went up twice, that's completely at the level of an epidemic virus!

Was it that bad here… or how about the others!? Bad, bad bad bad… If I don't immediately let them know of this… or wait, before that we need to disinfect ourselves ASAP! It won't be funny I went out carelessly and the virus spread!

As I thought that, I went in front of the entrance and check the status of me and the Slimes with Identify… OK, looks like there are no diseases.

I went out, then had the Cleaner Slimes clean everything, the box, the Slimes, my entire body, and the box the Slimes are going to enter. After that I had the Cleaner and Scavenger Slimes completely clean the area around the place I walked. I checked everything with the neutral magic, Identify, including my belongings, myself, and the Slimes. I confirmed that I didn't get information like "Dirty" or "Virus". Fortunately, everything was "Clean", looks like the Cleaner Slimes' and the Scavenger Slimes' Cleaning was effective. I lock the entrance, and just in case I blocked it with barrier magic and then hurried to the guild.

I caught quite a lot of attention until I got to the guild because I wasn't able to change my outfit. But, that's really not the time to be talking about things like that. I just want to inform the Guild Master and the Duke's Family about the situation at hand as soon as possible.

I thought that as I ran, and when I got near the guild, I noticed. At this rate a bad rumor of an epidemic might spread inside the guild, if it's poorly handled it might become a huge problem. So I guess I should just go in calmly like a young adventurer who had just finished his job…

As I thought that, I started walking instead, calmed myself down and

went into the guild.

Going inside the guild in a strange outfit, I caught a lot of attention. There were plenty of guys point their fingers at me and laughing. However, I ignored those things and went to the counter of the receptions. I don't have the luxury to mind, I'm already at my limit just not showing my impatience.

"Excuse me."

"Ara, Ryouma-kun… wh-what's up with that? That strange outfit."

"Clothes for cleaning! How is it? It's not cool but it's easy to move around in and there's no need to worry about the dirt, since even inside mud or the middle of a swamp, its hard to be dirtied while wearing this you know?"

"Certainly, that's true…"

The people around me nodded as they thought "certainly", looks like there were also people that were quite interested.

"By the way, after completing the job today, I want to report to the Guild Master but, is that ok?"

"Eh? To the Guild Master?"

"Could you please ask the Guild Master? I have something I want to talk to him about."

"Is that so? Well ok… I'll try asking but he's with a guest right now so you might have to wait."

"I understand, thank you."

As the receptionist lady said that, she went inside. After a while the receptionist lady came back and said,

"Ryouma-kun, he said it's OK. Go in."

Looks like I'll be able to meet him immediately, I have good luck. However there's a warning from the

receptionist lady before I went in.

"Right now, there's some really amazing people inside the Guild Master's room so don't be rude, ok? There probably won't be a problem with the way Ryouma-kun talks, but just in case."

“Thank you very much, I’ll be careful.”

Reaching the room of the Guild Master, the receptionist lady knocked and called out.

“Pardon my intrusion, I’ve brought Ryouma-kun.”

“Enter.”

Following the instruction of the Guild Master’s voice, I entered the room. When I entered the people in there were the Guild Master, the 4 members of the Household of Jamil, the 2 maids and Sebasu-san.

“Ryouma-kun, thank you for your hard work today.”

“Why is… everyone here?”

“Well we wanted to hear what we heard from Ryouma yesterday from the Gulid Master.”

“I see…”

It’s unexpected but this is good.

“Well? What’s up?”

“There’s something I want to talk about that needs to be kept secret.”

“Did something happen? And also what’s up with that outfit. Your basket, yesterday aside, since I met you three days ago, hasn’t your outfit been getting weirder and weirder?”

“This are clothes made specifically for cleaning. Since it’s specifically made for its purpose, please don’t mind its’ appearance much… Today, I cleaned the latrine pits of the community toilet.”

“Ah, I talked about that with you yesterday, so I know. And what’s up?”

“The method I use to clean is through Water Magic and my Slave Monster, the Scavenger Slime. The Scavenger Slime is a slime that likes to eat the dung and rotten flesh of animals and possesses the Cleaning Skill. Because of this I am able to get rid of the filth.”

“That’s the first I’ve heard of that kind of slime… well, in any case, I understand that you were able to clean it with that method.”

“The main topic is from here. Filth is obviously dirty, and so it’s expected to be a breeding ground for diseases.

And so in order to eat that, the Scavenger Slime possesses Disease Resist Skill. And also, since yesterday my Scavenger Slilme had possessed a Resist Skill level of 5.. But when I finished the mission today, after confirming it, the skill level had risen to 7!”

“What!?”

“Is that true!?”

“It’s true. It can be assumed that inside that latrine pit is an infectious disease that can raise the Disease Resist Skill level from 5 to 7. Fortunately, because I was able to notice that, I had the Cleaner Slime, another slime similar to the Scavenger Slime that possesses the Cleaning Skill, eat all the dirt, and confirmed that we were all clean with the Identify Skill, and then went here. In the same way I also had the area surrounding the entrance be cleaned by the slimes and then confirmed it with Identify. After cleaning up, I locked the door and just to be safe I put up a barrier with barrier magic, sealing it.”

“I see, good job. But for a plague to spread out from inside that…”

“Guild Master. Fortunately, my Slimes can deal with the infectious disease with its Cleaning Skill. And so, I will continue this job, but I want no one else to enter the pits until I finish cleaning. And just to be safe, could I ask for someone to keep watch to make sure that no one will go in?”

“That’s a given. But you, you know that there’s an infectious disease, and you still feel like cleaning?”

Hearing that, even the Madam added on.

“Isn’t it enough if only the Slimes were the ones to clean? Ryouma-kun can give orders to the Slimes even from a distance, right?”

“It’s dangerous to deal with infectious diseases!”

“The public office will provide people who will take responsibility so…”

Everyone tried to stop me but I can’t have that, because there is something I can do. Knowing something and yet leaving it to others is painful for my heart.

“Unfortunately, it’s not possible to completely clean it with just slimes. The filths clump up, and stick themselves to the walls and to the ceiling. Unless I wash them off with Water Magic, the slimes won’t be able to eat them. If it’s not properly dealt with, it will spread again. Thank you for worrying about me but please let me do it. If a large number of people

were to recklessly go inside, the possibility that an infected person will go out goes higher, and it will become easier for the disease to spread outside. With that point in mind, with me, alone, and the slimes we are able to deal with it. And also, if it's me it will be fine… Of course, it's fine to let anyone else do it, but, I am most probably the safest and fastest choice."

As I said that, I bring out my status board and allow five of my skills to be seen.

Resistance Skills			
Disease resist Lv7	Sleep resist Lv7	Stronger Vitality Lv3	Super Healing Lv3
Stronger Endurance Lv6			

When everyone saw that, they were shocked. Especially, the Guild Master.

"Wha–!?"

"Disease Resist Level 7, with this it should be confirmed that the chance of me being in danger is far lower than anyone else. Furthermore, even if I were to fall to the virus, with the Stronger Vitality Lv3, and the Super Healing Lv3, it will be harder for me to die compared to the normal person and will be able to recover easily. The Stronger Endurance will also help me out. And with the Sleep Resist Lv7 I will be able to stay awake for a few days.

Because of that I will be able to work quite fast. I believe there is no one else who has a Disease Resist Level higher than me, and at the same time someone who, even if he or she gets sick, will be able to recover. So, what do you think?"

It's because I'm a cheat, if I don't use my cheat here, then when will I use my cheat?

At my words, everyone in the room was silent. Looks like they can't object. But it looks they want to reject it not because of reason but because of their feelings, everyone's making a face that looks like they swallowed a bug.

The silence continued for a while until Rheinbach-sama spoke up.

“True… there’s no else aside from you that’s more appropriate. We’ll have to push you into danger but, best regards.”

Rheinbach-sama stood up from his chair, and bowed deeply to me.

“Of course.”

“Ryouma, leave the selection of the look out to me. I’ll call out people whose mouths are tight and who possess Disease Resist. Let’s do this in a way that won’t cause a huge panic.”

“Yes. Fortunately, because the community toilets have been well built, the townspeople haven’t been infected yet.

It’s good that we were able to notice it ahead of time.”

“If the disease were to spread, it wouldn’t be funny.”

“Yes. I thought about it since the Cleaner Slimes who were there the entire time along with the Scavenger Slimes, did not increase their Disease Resist Skill level. And so, I believe it should not be an airborne infection. Once the filth has been dealt with, I believe it will be safe.”

“What is that airborne thing?”

Oh, they don’t have that word? Is it possible their knowledge regarding infectious diseases is lesser than the one on Earth?

“Infectious diseases spread to a large number of people, right? That spread is what you call contagious. And within that contagiousness, there are several ways to which it transports itself from one person to another. One way is through water and food, acting similar to a poison, and spreading this way. Another way is through the air, where upon a person sniffing that air will be infected, that’s what you call air-born infection. In this case, the spread of virus becomes extremely dangerous as it spreads easily, and eliminating it becomes very difficult.

However in this case, a huge number of Cleaner Slimes that weren’t tasked with removing the filth, did not increase the level of their Resist Disease skill. And as such, it is not an air-born infection and can only spread to a person on direct contact. In this case if someone were to touch the source of infection, and then eat with that hand, then and only then, will the disease spread. With this in mind, as long as the filth is dealt with, then for the meantime there will be no problem.

Thanks to the community toilet, the filth immediately fell into the latrine pits, and so no was able to touch it.

After that as long as I take care when going out, it will be possible to deal with it. As I am not a specialist in this matter, the knowledge is half-baked but...”

Well that’s really the case… I’m not a doctor you know? It’s the basic knowledge of someone from Earth…

Still, I’m glad that it’s not air-borne! Even if it’s only my conjecture! I’m really glad that the Scavenger Slimes are here! If the Slimes weren’t here I wouldn’t know how to deal with this, since even if you set it on fire, the smoke might spread the virus, and one needs to prepare a huge amount of disinfectants. To begin with, I haven’t even seen a place that sells disinfectants.

“What do you mean half-baked, after saying that much? I’ve never heard of something like that.”

“Ryouma-kun, I also… or rather I believe no one here has ever heard of that. Where did you gain that kind of common sense?”

As expected this world didn’t have this kind of knowledge!

“I studied under my grandma. Grandma researched medicine and was quite familiar with diseases. Although

rather than to say I actually studied, it was more like I just listened to her chatter while I was mixing chemicals.”

At those words, at least for the meantime, everyone understood.

After that, since the operation will start tomorrow, I went back to our lodging along with the other 4 members of the Jamil Household. As for Sebasu-san and Araune-san, they went to gather information. And from what I’ve heard, it would appear that they’ve also moved the guards.

In addition, it can’t be said that there’s no chance of me getting the disease. So I suggested changing lodging from the others but without even taking time to think of it, they firmly rejected my proposal, until the Madam and Elia got mad at me while crying.

They’re really good people. I’m grateful. I’ll also do my best tomorrow.

Chapter 16

The Next Day.

Since morning today, there are 8 people, men and women, gathered in the meeting room of the Adventurer's guild.

"Hey, Wereanna, so your party also came."

"Jeff, looks like you too… Why do you think we were called today?"

"Don't know. The others don't know either. It doesn't seem like we have any common denominators, not in our tribe, age, or even in our ranks. Don't have any clue on what basis we've been chosen so we've been talking about it. How about you, do you have any ideas? It's only you guys who were called as a party, you know?"

"I don't know either. The only thing common in my party is that we're all female members of the beastman tribe.

But I don't think that's got anything do with it, right?"

"Yeah. Since I'm a guy, and I'm also a human. We also have two other humans here, a dwarf, and even a

dragonewt. So tribe and gender shouldn't have been a part of their criterion."

As they were discussing, another female beastman entered the room.

"Good morning~. Nya? Wereanna, Mizelia, and also Syria, nya? You guys were also called?"

"Miya, you were also called?"

"That's right nya. After I came back from my mission yesterday, the receptionist told me to come here today nya.

To think that you guys would also actually come, who knew? Nya."

"Me? Oh hey, hasn't your smell gotten better? Did you finally move out of that trashy house?"

"Even though, you wouldn't listen to me no matter how many times I told you to move out of that house."

“Did you finally reach your limit?”

“Wrong, nya. I’m still living in that house, even until today nya. Even if it’s like that I still bought it nya. If I don’t live in it, it will be a waste nya.”

“Then, how come your smell’s gotten better?”

“Actually, yesterday, someone finally took the request to clean my house again. It was a kid, nya. And that kid managed to clean up my house, nya.”

“That stinky hell hole? He cleaned it up?”

“I was also surprised nya. He actually cleaned that basement without even taking 2 hours, and even blocked the hole in the wall, nya. He cleaned it up with magic, and even made the room sparkling clean, nya.”

“That’s amazing, what kind of guy was it?”

“Looked like a rookie kid, nya. Was probably under thirteen years old, and was carrying a big basket made out of wood and vines on his back, nya.”

“Ha? Under 13 years old with a big basket? Isn’t that the guy called Ryouma?”

“Right, nya! He certainly called himself that, nya.”

“You knew that guy?”

“The day before yesterday, when he came back from his work, the old man called him. He made a face that

looked like he had no idea why he was being called, so I told him it’s just the old man being nosy. That kid’s really polite.”

“True, he’s certainly a polite kid, nya.”

While they were talking another person entered the room. It was Ryouma. When Miya saw that, she exclaimed.

“Excuse me. Is–“

“Ah! The kid nya!”

“Miya-san? Miya-san and Jeff-san was also here, huh?”

“Hey, it’s me from the other day. So you were also called huh? Good timing, we were just talking about you.”

“About me?”

“Nice to meet you, you’re Ryouma, right? I am Wereanna of the Dog Man Tribe. I’ve been a longtime

acquaintance, and was also a former party member. I was really shocked when I heard you were able to clean Miya’s house, you know? It’s amazing you were able to clean that house.”

“It’s fine that she bought the house but with the walls crumbling and being in that state… you saw it right? For a member of the beastman tribe that possesses good nose something like that was painful, and so we tried

recommending her several times to move out but she wouldn’t listen… ah, by the way I’m Mizelia. Best regards.”

“And I’m Syria of the Rabbit Beastman Tribe. I look forward to working with you.”

“I’m Ryouma Takebayashi. I also look forward to working you all.”

“These three are members of the former party I was in, nya. Because the smell of that house permeated my body, it was quite difficult for the members of the party especially for Wereanna, who was a member of the Dog Beastman Tribe, and since I didn’t want to give up the house I had to leave. And then some, nya.”

“Well Miya is sometimes stubborn…”

“She wouldn’t listen no matter what anyone said.”

“You really did well to live there for 5 years.”

“To live there for 5 years, that’s quite something, huh?”

Ryouma made a speechless face. And then at that Jeff asked Ryouma.

“By the way, the basket you had with you the other day, you also brought it with you today, right? What’s in it?”

“Inside this is my Slave Monster. I am a Slave Magic User after all.”

“Oh? So you were a Slave Magic User. What are you raising?”

“Several types of slimes. I’m still an apprentice. Slimes are quite slow so it’s faster to carry them on my back through my basket and run during times when we need to hurry. And it’s also not good to scare people so…”

“I see~”

As we were talking, the Guild Master entered the room.

“Good, looks like everyone has gathered. Take your seats.”

At those words everyone sat.

“Well then, I’ll start explaining the reason why I called you all out here today. But before that I need you all to make an oath that not a word of what we will be talking about here will leak outside. If there’s someone who can’t do that, then please leave the meeting room. I should also inform you now that you don’t have to take the mission after hearing my explanation. Just don’t leak the details of the conversation outside, aside from that even if you refuse the mission, I won’t mind. There won’t be any fine.”

Hearing those words, everyone nodded without hesistation.

“Good. Well then to start off with, let’s talk about what criterion I called you guys here. The first is that I can trust you guys to some degree, second, a tight mouth, and last, that you all possess the Disease Resist Skill. You guys have it, right?”

“Disease Resist Skill? Well, yeah I have it. Old man, you should know about it that I’m a former resident of the slums. As long as one lives there, getting anyone could get a skill level of 1 or 2. Well mine’s at 5, though.”

The next to respond was Wereanna

“We also have it since we once caught an infectious disease from one of the towns we were working in.”

“Fortunately, we were able to survive and come back. As a result we managed to gain the skill.”

“If I’m correct, everyone’s level 3, right?”

“I’m level 4 now, nya. I don’t really like saying it myself but, it’s because I live at that trashy house, nya.”

After that a veteran looking Dwarf guessed the contents of the topic for the meeting today. When a young adventurer heard what he said, he panickedly exclaimed.

“If you’re talking about Disease Resistance then, is it an epidemic?”

“An outbreak!?”

“Calm down Shale. Just as Gordon had assumed, it is certainly about that. Only, it hasn’t spread yet.”

“Yet, meaning, one or two sick people had caught it?”

“No, we just confirmed that there’s a breeding ground for it. It doesn’t mean someone’s already been infected.

The one who found the breeding ground is that Ryouma over there.”

At those words everyone looked at Ryouma simultaneously. And then the Guild Master, Wogan, explained about the Scavenger Slime, the information, and basis on why we know there to be an infectious disease.

“… So because the Scavenger Slime’s Disease Resist Skill level increased from 5 to 7, although really even at only level 6 it is already not possible to actually completely resist it. The request this time is to stop this epidemic before it starts to spread. Moreover, if news of this were to leak out to the townspeople, it will cause great panic to the people, so please keep this a secret.”

“Our job is to deal with the epidemic, so in other words cleaning the latrine pits right?”

“No, you nine won’t be doing that. The only one who will go to clean the latrine pits is just Ryouma.”

“Wait a minute! You plan to make the kid deal with that alone? Isn’t that absurd? Kids also catch diseases more easily than adults. It’s too dangerous.”

“To begin with, isn’t it impossible to clean the latrine pits of the town with only one person?”

“I also think that, but this is for the best. Besides Ryouma had already managed to clean one of the latrine pits yesterday with his slimes, so it is possible. And also the highest level of Disease Resist skill you guys possess is 5, which is Jeff’s. Even at level 6 of Disease Resistance, the risk of getting the disease is still high. With that in mind Ryouma who has a Disease Resistance of level 7, is the one at least risk of catching the disease. Moreover, he also has Stronger Vitality Lv3, Super Healing Lv3, and Stronger Endurance Lv6. Even if he were to catch the disease, his prospects for surviving are far higher than anyone else in this room.”

At those words the nine people were shocked and looked at Ryouma. And then Syria asked Wogan a question.

“I understand that he’s the most suitable person. But then if you were to leave everything to him, then what will we have left to do?”

“Although Ryouma will be taking care of the process of sanitization, It is vital that we work in shifts to ensure that nobody comes near the area as he works. To be absolutely sure, I called you guys who possessed Disease Resistance. And after that for those who can use the neutral

magic, Identify, please confirm that Ryouma won't bring the virus with him when he goes out after finishing the job."

"Is there any need to have 9 look outs?"

"Well according to Ryouma it will take a few days of working continuously day and night. Ryouma also has Sleep Resistance level 7 so it won't be a problem for him, and naturally, I've confirmed this in his status board."

"I understand, that's why we have to look out alternatively. Ryouma, is it really ok for you to do this?"

"There's no problem since its normal for me to work continuously for a few days. Rather I think it's a rather easy role."

"I see."

"I'll give you guys 10 minutes. This mission is in a sense more dangerous than subjugating monsters. There's no obligation and there's also no penalty for not accepting, so think well on whether to accept this mission or not."

As Wogan said that, he left the room along with Ryouma, whose participation was already decided.

"Haa… what to do?"

At those words, the dwarf adventurer called Gordon replied.

"I'm joining them. After all, this is the town I was born and raised in and I also have a lot of people I know here, so I can't run away."

After him, the next to declare his participation was the dragonewt adventurer.

"This one will also accept. A plague is a threat, and this one has yet to stop one –de gozaru."

Afterwards the ones declaring their participation came one after another.

"While its true epidemics are bad but even so, it's not like we can just push it on that kid, right?"

"Exactly, and first of all, our job is only to be a lookout. The one doing the most difficult job is that guy. So there's no way I could run here."

Or so, Wereanna and Jeff declared. After which, the conversation continued until Ryouma and Wogan finally returned. From the members present in the meeting room, the number of people participating is 9, all of them declared their participation.

After that Wogan also taught to them the knowledge Ryouma shared to him regarding diseases, a knowledge that originally came from Earth but is currently believed to be from Ryouma's grandmother, and then distributed their share of work.

During that time, Ryouma changed to his worker clothes and then went ahead to the latrine pits, since he really stood out in those clothes.

Moreover with several adventurers following behind him, being suspicious can't be helped.

Ryouma met up with the first look outs in front of the latrine pits, and then went inside to start the operation.

Chapter 17

~Side Ryouma~

Today, we will be beginning the operation to clean the latrine pits. The lookouts for today are Miya-san, Jeff-san and the dragonewt, Asagi-san.

Asagi-san talks like someone you'd find in a samurai play. I asked him about it and it seems that his ancestor is the disciple of an other-worlder. Story says, that despite being human he possessed a body that wouldn't lose even to a dragonewt and was an accomplished swordsman. That other-worlder's manner of speaking and name was

inherited by the dragonewt who became his disciple and was passed on for generations to come.

"Before I open the door, please dip the hand towel into this before covering your face with it."

As I said that I gave the order to the Cleaner Slimes to spit out some deodorization liquid into the container I prepared.

"What is that?"

"It's the Cleaner Slime's deodorization liquid. It's not harmful to your body and will thin out the bad smell."

"I see."

The other three, understanding, dipped the hand towel into the deodorization liquid and covered their nose and mouth with it.

"Well then, I'll be opening it."

And then, I opened the door…

"I'm off–…"

"Ugu! …… bleeeeargh …"

As I tried to say goodbye, Asagi-san suddenly threw up.

"Are you ok?"

"Sorry… when you opened the door I prepared myself for the stench, but nothing came. So I thought it wasn't anything special and slid the towel a

bit… my bad. The Dragonewt's nose is on the same level as the Beastmen's, you see."

Ah, so it was something like that, yesterday I was also like that at first.

"Well it can't be helped. Even I, who is a human, found it so unbearable that it even went to my eyes. If I didn't have my slimes I wouldn't have been able to endure it either. I'll leave the deodorization liquid here so please use it freely. Well then, I'll be off now."

As I said that I went inside. Just like the latrine pit yesterday, the situation here is also pretty bad.

Before I started cleaning I thought to use Identify first on the virus. At that, this came out:

Idake Virus (Alt. Hugging Virus) : Reproduces on excrement and is the virus responsible for

the Idake disease. Once infected, the Idake disease will break out within 10 hours.

Symptoms: Fever, cold, vertigo, numbness of limbs, paralysis of the entire body, confusion, and

cardiac arrest.

Prognostic symptoms: either the limbs or the whole body will remain paralyzed.

Source of infection: Oral

Weakness: Heat and dryness

So there really was a dangerous virus! I ended up getting rid of it immediately yesterday so I didn't get to use Identify on it. Good thing though, that I did use Identify within yesterday. Like that I was able to provide useful information to the guild about this.

Since I've already identified it, I have no use for the filth anymore. Just like yesterday, I'll have the Scavenger Slimes take care of it.

Speaking of which, because of the Scavenge Slimes' splitting yesterday, they ended up numbering over 1000.

When I had them fuse into one, it became a King Scavenger Slime.

Finally a King Slime has come out. If I increase the numbers of the slimes

again there may still be another transformation but right now the number is still too few.

King Scavenger Slime x 1			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv7	Poison Resist Lv7	Eat Filth Lv8	Cleaning Lv8
Deodorization Lv8	Deodorization Liquid Lv5	Release Stench Lv7	Return Nutrients Lv6
Jump Lv3	Physical Attack Resistance Lv3	Enlarge Lv4	Compress Lv6
Overeating Lv1			

Looks like Digestion and Absorption disappeared and was replaced with a new skill called Overeating. As I try to test it, I have the King Scavenger Slime activate the Enlarge skill, becoming big enough to reach even until the roof of the latrine pit, and then it begins to munch at the excrements at a speed several times faster than normal.

I don’t know if it’s because it’s still only at lv 1 but the speed is still slower compared to yesterday’s Scavenger Slime’s eating speed at 730 individual slimes. Although if you look at it from the perspective that there’s only one slime eating, it is quite fast. If I can make the Scavenger Slimes split again and have 2 King Slimes, then I could leave the two sides to the King and leave the center to the normal Scavenger Slimes. Since their bodies are so big that they can reach the ceiling, if I do that I won’t even need to use magic and my life will be really easy.

Well, going back to the topic.

The work today finished 2 hours earlier compared to yesterday because the slimes’ number doubled. All in all I finished the work here in 3 hours, and then just like yesterday I used Cleaning, and then went back outside.

“Something the matter?”

“The job here is already over so please confirm that I’m clean and then we’ll go straight to the next one.”

“It’s already over, nya?”

“Didn’t you need to take a whole day for a pit?”

Eh? Ah! Oh yeah, I remember they got the info about me needing one day to clean one pit. So I guess they thought I would take the whole day for one just like yesterday.

“Actually after I finished the job yesterday the Scavenger Slimes began to show signs of splitting, so I had them split and contracted them while inside the latrine pits. Because of that I took more time than I should have. In actuality I only really need 5 hours to clean one pit, but since the number of the slimes had already doubled, that time’s become even shorter.”

“The number doubled? But even then it wouldn’t be that many right? Does it eat that fast?”

Now that I think about it, these guys don’t know about the composition of the slimes, huh?

“Now that I think about it I haven’t mentioned anything about the slimes, huh? This slime is normally this small because of the compression skill, but in actuality it’s actually a high class scavenger slime called the King Scavenger Slime. Do you know about the Big Slime?”

“Ahh, I know. It’s a big slime, right?”

“A Big Slime is the combination of many slimes of the same kind. So when you see one of those, what you are actually seeing is a lump of many slimes.”

As I said that I had the Scavenger Slime split into 20 parts.

“Nya!?”

“Wow, seriously?”

“This is…”

“Since the slimes didn’t seem to have been researched all that much, the number of people who know about this include only me and those that I have taught. Since I’ve always researched slimes I talked like something

like this was common sense, my apologies.”

“It’s fine as long as you’re able to do your work. However, how many Scavenger Slimes do you have gathered here?”

“1464.”

“One thousand?”

“You have that many?”

“Yes, in order to become a King Scavenger Slime, the minimum number required is 1000 Scavenger Slimes.

Incidentally, anything from 100 to 500 slimes will end up as a Big Slime, and between 500 and 1000 will end up as a Huge Slime.”

“I see… if that’s the case then I can understand how you’re able to do it so fast.”

After my explanation we went to the next latrine pit, cleaned up, and then repeated the same for the rest of the pits.

————————————————

3 Days Later

~Side Ryouma~

This one’s the last. I haven’t slept a wink in these three days.

Right after I finish one pit, I would go out and find that the lookout’s been changed. Seeing them, we’d chat for a bit and then I'd immediately start to work on the next one without getting any rest.

There was one time that I was surprised though. After finishing my work, when I came out I saw Sebasu-san waiting for me. Since he knew that I had a tendency to forget to eat when I’m focused on something, he brought a light meal for me to eat. I actually did forget about it, so I was really grateful.

Of course the other 9 lookouts also supported me.

The schedule went like this, from afternoon to evening, Jeff-san, Miya-san, and Asagi-san. Then from evening to morning, Wereanna-san, Mizelia -san, Syria-san. And then from morning to afternoon the ones in charge are, Gordon-san, Jeff-kun, and Raypin-san. They were all good people.

The Scavenger Slimes split again and its numbers ended up at 3033. I had them fuse at 1011 each, and with 3

King Scavenger Slimes side by sides, with the combination of Enlarge and Overeating, they were able to easily clean the walls and the ceiling. Their skill levels also increased. Their current status are:

King Scavenger Slime x 3			
Skills			
Disease Resist Lv7	Poison Resist Lv7	Eat Filth Lv8	Cleaning Lv8
Deodorization Lv8	Deodorization Liquid Lv6	Release Stench Lv8	Return Nutrients Lv7
Jump Lv3	Physical Attack Resistance Lv4	Enlarge Lv5	Compress Lv6
Overeating Lv4			

The Disease Resist didn't level up again so I guess that means lv. 7 is enough for the Idake virus here.

Cleaning, Deodorization, Eat Filth's levels all increased because of the operation here. And then for some reason the Physical Attack Resistance also levelled up. Were the slimes rubbing their bodies against the walls the entire time? Or maybe they were bumping against other slimes? I don't know, but in any case the higher the level the better.

Well it took some time but now the job is done, so I guess I'll head out.

"Is it over?"

"Yes, it's done."

"Good job! With this everything's done."

“I thought you’d end up taking a rest half way through but you actually really did do it in one go -de aru.”

“Well I did rest during mealtime.”

“Well that’s true. Oh yeah, Raypin-san please check that Ryouma is clean.”

“Umu, leave it to this great one…… There doesn’t seem to be any problems –de aru. Clothes, belongings, surroundings, everything is clean. All that’s left is to report to the guild –de aru.”

“Thank you very much. Then, shall we go?”

“Wait a moment, this great one shall take you there –de aru. ‘Warp’.”

Raypin-san used the mid-distance movement magic, Warp, and sent me to the entrance of the guild. Raypin-san is a scholar magician and became an adventurer for the sake of researching and observing magical beasts. He showed great interest to my Cleaner Slime and Scavenger Slime, and valued the results of my slime research highly. Although he may use words that seem arrogant, he is a really caring person.

When we entered the guild, the receptionist lady immediately went to the Guild Master’s room.

“Is it done, Ryouma?”

“Yes, I’ve cleaned all the 30 latrine pits of the community toilet. It’s safe now.”

“I see! That’s good… great! Today, everyone should go home and rest! I’ll go inform the others that the job is done. And then come here to the guild tomorrow, I’ll hand out your payments.”

“Understood, please excuse… oh right, Guild Master?”

“What?”

“Do you know the Idake Disease?”

“Idake Disease? ……..No. Well, I was never really that informed about things like that. In any case, what about it?”

“Oh, it’s nothing, it’s just that when I used Identify on the filth in the latrine pit, that’s the name of the disease that came out. I know its danger and symptoms, but I don’t know exactly how dangerous it is.”

“I see… well in the meantime, it’s safe right?”

“Yes, we have already successfully dealt with it.”

“Then it’s fine. I’ll go check about that disease called Idake too but, regardless, you should hurry up and go home, you haven’t slept a wink right?”

“That’s true. In that case, please excuse me.”

As I said that, I went back to the lodging. As for the other three, it seems they did their own things to pass the time.

“Welcome home! Ryouma-san!” - Elia

“Welcome home, Ryouma-kun.” [Madam]

“Welcome home.” [Rheinhart]

“Looks like you came back safe. That’s good.” [Rheinbach]

“Welcome home, Ryouma-sama.” [Sebasu]

“Please allow me to carry your things?” [Maid]

“Have you had your meal?” [Maid]

I was welcomed by Elia and the rest. ……ah…… since when was it that I was greeted……was it when my

mother died? No, I was greeted by Elia so many times, yet why is it that this feeling is……

“Ryouma-kun, what’s wrong? Are you hurt somewhere?”

“No……my body is fine, I just remembered something from the past……!”

Family……that’s right…… it’s similar, the feelings this people give……back then, without being

able to do well in my work, day after day I would be exhausted, I would look for work, and without finding, I’d be depressed……during times like that, there was always one person that would welcome me home……it

was my mother……

“Ryouma-san!? What’s wrong!?”

When Elia said that, I noticed something. I’m crying. Without knowing it, tears have already started to come out from my eyes.

“Ahh……sorry, I’m alright. I just remembered my family for a bit. Being surrounded by everyone like

this……even though you don’t resemble each other at all……”

My mother is half Chinese and Japanese. Although she wasn’t bad looking, there were times when she didn’t really look all that great. She was ok. But, to actually be reminded of her by these beautiful people, their faces are so different, and yet…

As I was thinking of stupid things like that, all of the sudden the Madam hugged me. Elia embraced my arms, and Rheinhart-san put his hand on my shoulder. I felt Rheinbach-sama pat me on the head, and I noticed Sebasu-san and the two maids were looking at me warmly.

After that they took care of me, fed me, prepared the bath for me, and afterwards tuck me to sleep. Yes, just like this, I fell sound asleep and retired for the day.

Chapter 18

~Side Ryouma~

When I opened my eyes the sun was already high.

Ah~…… I slept well. It's been a while since I last worked that hard….. Hmm… the sun's already high……

……The sun is high? …… Not good!

"Good morning, Ryouma-sama."

"Sebasu-san, what's the time right now?"

"It's already almost lunch. As expected Ryouma-sama must have been really tired. It's good that Ryouma-sama seemed to have had a good night's rest, will you be having your meal now?"

"Thank you but I have to go to the guild now so I'll have it when I come back."

"Alright."

I quickly get myself readied and head towards the guild. This is bad, there's no more time. I guess I'll have to do it.

I put up a Barrier of Concealment around me and, wrapping my magic around me to strengthen my body, I

activate the neutral magic, Body Strengthening.

Using my strengthened body, I run up to the roof of the nearest building, and ran on top of the roof. I then activate the short distance movement space magic, teleport, and then run straight for the guild. Like this, I somehow managed to make it by noon.

"Excuse me."

Everyone was already gathered when I got to the room.

"You came, Ryouma. With this, everyone's gathered."

"Sorry for making you wait."

"You managed to make it just in time, so don't mind it. Then, let's get started. Your payment for this job!

I got 3 medium silver coins from the previous latrine pit job I took. The one I got today was 30 small gold coins.

As for the others, they all got 10 small gold coins each.

“Hey, hey, old man, aren’t you being unusually generous?”

“Seriously. You gave it, so we’ll accept it but you do know that all we did was look out, right?”

Asked Jeff-san and Wereanna-san because of the unusually high amount. Even the veteran dwarf adventurer, Gordon, asked…

“Isn’t the pay too high? Even if you say that we were near a place from where an infectious disease might spread, it’s not like we actually did anything directly. Just half of this would be fine, no?’

The guild master just shook his head though, and said...

“Nah, that amount is undoubtedly correct. The reason for that is…… Ryouma?”

“Yes?”

“You said it, right? That the name of the infectious disease in the latrine pit was the Idake Disease, right?”

“Yes, I had confirmed it with, Identify, therefore it is definitely correct.”

“Apparently that disease is quite problematic. You see, I asked some trashy old hag I know about the details regarding that, and as it turns out it has a pretty low death rate. Only, it spreads fast, and it leaves its survivors unable to move their limbs. But since, being unable to move also means being unable to work, in the end it’s pretty much the same as dying. And so, the reward for this time’s job is because of that. Although it doesn’t have a high death rate, the old ones and kids have a high chance of dying and as for those that do survive, including adults, they’ll all end up unable to work. So I’m paying you that much after taking that into consideration.”

When the guild master finished explaining, everyone broke out into a cold sweat.

Looks like it was really dangerous…… Although it’s also because of the after effects, but not being able to work is just too much of a hit since you won’t be able to make a living. In a world without insurance or a country that will offer relief for its citizens, it’s a lethal strike. In the end, if one were to catch that disease, it could lead to only one conclusion, starvation.

“It’s good that we were able to stop it ahead of time, nya……”

“In a sense you could say that it’s scarier than a disease with a high death rate.”

“If you catch it and die, you pass on. But if you manage to survive, then in its own way, you get to enter hell.”

As the direction of the conversation moved, the Guild Master mentioned the following, “This time the public office seemed to have taken quite a scolding. As for what’s going to happen to the janitorial position of the latrine pits… right now, it’s quite a mess.”

Wereanna-san gave him a questioning look and asked.

“You mean, they’re not giving it back to the people of the slum?”

“Unfortunately, that’s impossible. Even if you tell them that the top executive responsible for giving out low wages has been fired and that you’ll be paying the former amount, it doesn’t really seem like they’re willing to believe it. And also, apparently, they were given a new job, and also from their point of view…

Other towns aside, since this town here is near a mine. There are a lot of jobs here that people don’t like to do, physical labor, dirty labor… those kinds of stuff. But because there those kind of jobs are numerous, the people of the slum are able to find new work. So it’s not like there’s any particular reason to make a fuss over the job of cleaning the latrine pits…

And first of all, the one at fault was the public office. They also can’t tell them to stop their job and come work for them again so from the looks of things they just gave up on trying to employ the slums.”

“Then, what’s going to happen? This time we got lucky that Ryouma noticed it but it will be bad if this happens again.”

“That’s right, putting it bluntly, it’s because we’d be paid that the guild was able to push it on to us. But from now here on out, the guild we’ll probably have to force the people that have a lot of failed missions or those that broken the rules to take on the job.”

“That kind of thing, just leave it to them, they’ll figure something out.”

“Don’t say it so casually…”

“Please do calm down, I’ll also take requests while I’m in the town, so please think of something during that time.”

“Thanks.”

“Nya? Does Ryouma live in a different town somewhere?”

“Acutally, I don’t live in a town but in a forest.”

“Forest?”

“Do you know the forest of Gana? From here it will take around 1 week to get there…”

“If I’m correct it’s the one close to the town of Gaunago, right?”

“That’s right. I live deep inside that forest.”

“In the forest? Why in a place like that?”

“It’s because I’m an orphan. Unfortunately, though, my grandparents that picked me up passed away, and the village we lived in was particularly cruel to outsiders, so in the end I had no choice but to leave the village.

Fortunately, my grandparents were adventurers and had given me the knowledge and skill I would need to

survive. Thanks to that, I was able to live by myself in the forest. I did live in the forest for 3 years, so I wonder if it’s because of that, that I’m starting to find it more comfortable to live in the forest rather than in a place with people.”

“3 years!?’

“Wait a moment. Ryouma-kun, how old are you?”

“11 years old.”

“So you’ve been living by yourself in the forest since you were 8 years old?”

“You’re crazy…”

“Then, how come you’re in a village like this?”

“Well I had been wondering if it was really ok to continue that lifestyle since my grandparents did tell me to go to a different village. At some point though, I ended up meeting some people who were going here, and so I decided to go with them to see what a town inhabited by people is like.”

“Are you going back?”

“Well, I am worried and I also have some attachment to that house I made that I lived in for 3 years.

Alternatively, I might also be able to find a place to live in deep in the

forest around here."

"Um, how about no? Go live in the town. Why do you have to go all the way to the forest to live?"

"Well the house is made by magic, and food is dealt with, by simply hunting, like this it's quite the carefree lifestyle, you know? Oh, money also isn't needed."

"Ryouma, this one thinks that you being a hermit at that age is too early."

"That's true…… I can vaguely feel it."

"Well just think hard enough about it to have no regrets. I'd be grateful if you stayed here, but it's better if you choose to live here without being burdened. Just go live the way you want.

For the mean time the properties of the people who were embezzling money were confiscated, and the people who worked with them had their salaries cut. All those funds retrieved will be used as finances for the town so for the mean time there will be money. So at the very least the town will have money to hire people to handle things.

……Anyway with this I've given you guys what I needed to give you. And also, there's one last thing I need to let you guys know. A few days from now, a request will be posted regarding the subjugation of the monsters making nests inside the mine. Practically speaking, that mine has been abandoned years ago but it's only this year that it will be officially declared as abandoned. There are several kinds of magical beasts making nests inside that mine. They're mostly just a bunch of small beasts but the scope is wide so they want to hire adventurers for the job. Take those jobs and kick their asses. Dismissed!"

Like that we were dismissed and we each went our own ways. I went back to the lodging where Elia and the rest were waiting for me. From the looks of things, they wanted us to eat lunch together and so they had waited for me. I give my thanks, take my seat, and have lunch with them. At which point Elia said this…

"Ryouma-san, let's have special training!"

"What's the matter all of the sudden?"

… I feel like we'd also had a similar conversation in the past…

"I'll be having special training from today onwards so I wanted to know if Ryouma-san might want to join too."

"The truth is, this trip is not only just a trip, but also for the sake of

serving as Elia's battle practice."

"My household does not discriminate between men and women and makes its members go on a journey for the

sake of practicing magic and slave magic. Depending on how good one is, they can also become an adventurer."

"Going on a trip, widening one's knowledge and getting a better outlook on life is good for the family. But in order to do something like that, it's necessary to have the strength to do so. We could just assign some escorts for our heirs as well, but then it will be uncomfortable for them, and also since they won't be putting any effort, the results will be half-baked. So with that in mind, Elia will be fighting personally in order to gain the power to protect herself in the future."

"From this year on, I will be going to school to learn magic and academics. So before that, I wanted to gather some experience."

"I see, so that's why you came here."

"That's right. Since this morning until just a while ago I've been practicing and this afternoon as well I'll be practicing again. So how about it? Won't Ryouma-san join the training as well?"

This is a good opportunity

"If I won't be in the way, then please allow me to participate."

Like that I ended up joining the afternoon training.

We went out the city on carriage and after 20 minutes arrived to a rocky place, where Jill-san and the rest were waiting for us. It seems that our training for today is about magic.

"Ryouma, so you came too. The three days must have been tough, huh?"

"Jill-san as well, I heard you've been busy too."

"Well in its own way."

"Come on, no more talking, and let's go practice!" Said the excited Ojousama.

"By the way, which attribute will we be training today?"

"Fire and ice is my specialty. Since I have plenty of magic power, if I practice a lot, I'll able to use a lot of powerful magic."

Lots of powerful magic, huh? Just what you'd expect from someone that specializes in fire.

“Ryouma-sama, just as I’ve mentioned before, it would be good for Ryouma-sama to learn several attack magic of differing attributes. The Ojousama has been training controlling her magic power since this morning.”

After that, our teachers became Sebasu-san for Elia, and Camil-san for me.

“Well then, shall we start?”

“Yes, please take care of me.”

“Here too. It’s just something I heard but, Ryouma has all attribute aptitude, right?”

“Yes, that’s correct. However, I’ve only trained the basic attack magic and the magic I can use in my day-to-day life.”

“Ok. Then can you show me the attack magic that you can use?”

“Alright.”

Saying that, I used the basic magic of fire, water, wind, earth, electricity, ice, and poison on the nearby rock.

Specifically, the name of the magic are, Fire Ball, Water Ball, Wind Cutter, Earth Needle, Stun, Ice Shot, and Poison.

“Nice, even if it’s just basic magic, that was still pretty good. If you can do this much then you can probably easily learn the next magic. First off, I’ll show you the new magic one by one. After seeing it, I want you to try it yourself.”

“Alright, I’ll do my best.”

“Then let’s go. First off, is the fire magic, ‘Fire Arrow’.”

The moment Camil-san chanted the magic, fire lit up from his hand, quickly forming into an arrow and flying straight into the rock.

“This is the lesser offensive fire magic, Fire Arrow. It’s faster than Fire Ball and has the power to penetrate through its target. This is the most common, and easiest to use fire magic. Try it yourself.”

“Ok.”

Remembering Camil-san’s fire arrow, I try to recreate it. Just like Fire Ball, I create a ball of fire in my hands, but this time, I compress it and gather it together, and in my mind I imagine an arrow being shot. Then I chant it.

“Fire Arrow.”

As I said those words, a Fire Arrow just like Camil-san’s appears, and flies straight into the rock.

“Good, you succeeded. To get it on the first try, your comprehension is good.”

Oh? Will I be suspected at a time like this, like they would in a generic light novel? Should I try to trick him a bit?

“It’s because I use the bow. So it was quite easy to create the image.”

“I see. Right, there was also that.”

“Also?”

“Yeah, from time to time there are people who aren’t magicians but use magic in their day to day lives. And even, without learning offensive magic, they manage to raise the level of their magic. That kind of person, is the type that can quickly learn the magic as long as he creates the image. Depending on the person he or she will usually be able to get it at the second or third try.”

Oh, it doesn’t look like the learning speed is that different from the ones in the light novels… that’s good.

After that I also learned the offensive magic, Water Shot, Wind Hammer, Rock bullet, Stun Arrow, and Ice Arrow. As well as the defensive magic, Fire Wall, Water Wall, Wind Shield, and Ice Shield.

Also it would seem that Camil-san can only use all the low class attributes plus the electric and ice attribute.

Because of that he wasn’t able to teach me poison, wood, or the high class attribute skills.

“Well I’ve taught you everything so…… shall we go to the middle class and increase the training speed……

yeah……”

Looks like my learning speed is fast but not abnormal, because of that though, it would appear he’s run out of teaching material. Seeing Camil-san troubled, Sebasu-san came.

“Is there a problem?”

“Sebasu-san.”

“Ryouma-kun’s comprehension is really good. I ended up already teaching

him everything I can teach.”

“I see, it was something like that. Then, in that case, I will teach him space magic from here on.”

Brilliant! A space magician who is distinguished even in the country is going to teach me! Lucky!

“Well then, I’ll be going. Do your best, Ryouma-kun.”

“Thank you very much, Camil-san. Please take care of me, Sebasu-san.”

“Then let’s start. First off, does Ryouma-sama have any other space magic other than Item Box?”

“I can use Teleport.”

“If it would be fine with Ryouma-sama, could Ryouma-sama please show me?”

“Yes, of course. Then, ‘Teleport’!”

————————————————

~ Side Sebasu~

Ryouma-sama invoked teleport and appeared beside the nearby rock. From there, he used Teleport 4 more times consecutively, and then came back right in front of me. Excellent. It looks like he understands the magic well.

“That was excellently done, Ryouma-sama. Not only is the speed of invocation fast, but Ryouma-sama was even able to use it consecutively. With this, there should be no problem to use even the middle class magic, Dimension Home, as well as the mid-distance movement magic, Warp.”

“Really!?”

“Yes, it’s true. Is Ryouma-sama aware of the reason as to why the high class attribute, space magic, is hard to use?”

“I don’t know.”

“Then in that case, how does space magic work?”

“Well first, one interferes with the dimension using magic power and then distorts it. I believe this to be the basic of the magic.”

“Precisely. However, it is that basic, the foundation, which is the act of interfering with the dimension using magic power that many people find

themselves stumbling. The thing called dimension or space is always there.

However, the number of people that can truly be aware of it is rare.

Amongst the books that talk about space magic there are many that exaggerate and say things like, ‘space magic encompasses everything in the world’ leading to many people failing to grasp a strong image of it. Because of this, the inference ends up as incomplete.

The truly important part regarding space magic is how one would be able to grasp the space that one is in right now. However, this is not something that you can explain in words. An understanding that comes from words, will only be incomplete. The only way for one to grasp this understanding, is to practice, and understand the feeling. And unless one is able to properly do that, one will not be able to use mid-level space magic.

Ryouma-sama might find himself quite shocked if I were to say this, but, in truth, low level space magic is the same as mid-level magic.”

“!?”

Fufu… as expected he’s quite shocked.

“In the past space magic didn’t have the low level magic that we have today. One theory says that there used to be no distinction between low level and mid-level. The reason for that is that whether one is able to properly grasp space magic or not, is the only time one can be considered to have taken their first step in space magic. If one is unable to properly grasp that, then the space will only either end in failure or be incomplete. But as time went the number of people that could use space magic decreased and the quality of the space magicians as a whole fell.

Because of this, what was once considered to be low level magic has become the mid-level magic, today, and what was considered as a failure is now a low level magic.”

“So I can use the same image I use for Item Box and Teleport for Dimension Home and Warp?”

“That’s correct, however in the case of Dimension Home there are still things that need to be supplemented but in the case of Warp, that’s exactly correct. Just one thing though, since the distance Warp can travel is far greater than Teleport, as long as one is able to properly grasp the destination, then one will be able to go no matter how far. For starters, how about that rock’s summit?”

I point my finger at the farthest rock that I can see. The rock is quite big

as well but more than that, it's perfect because its summit is flat, so it can serve as a foothold.

"I understand, please let me try it"

Ryouma-sama looks like he's up to challenge. This kind of attitude is the kind that's worth teaching.

I wonder how many people have I taught magic like this? ……Having been born in the Household of Jamil

as someone who possessed talent for Space Magic. While serving the household I did nothing but study and train both as a butler and as a magician.

My magic was quite useful during the days I travelled with the previous head. And when our journey ended, I supported the previous head every day…… I think it was around this time when people started calling me a distinguished space magician within the country.

Before I knew it, the magic that I had been studying, training, and using since I was a child, had become a topic all over the country. The cause was apparently when I used Dimension Home to store a great number of things in order to help the previous head.

After that, a lot of people came asking to become my disciple. They would bring letters with them petition for them to be taken as my disciple, but I rejected all of them. Unfortunately, amongst them, were those that would directly go to the previous head and use their connection as a shield and ask for the vassal or children to be taught.

Of course, ignoring those kinds of people would be problematic so I taught them… however, there were truly far too many of them. When the number of people I taught numbered over 100, I had stopped counting, but even then, the number of people that could use mid-level magic and above, could not reach even 10. The many sons of the different noble households in particular, would not listen to me when I told them that Space Magic is not something that can be taught through words, showed their displeasure and was not able to properly train.

A person like Ryouma-sama who meekly follows instructions, and earnestly pursues magic training is the kind of person that is most enjoyable to teach. If he has talent, then it'll be even more interesting. Until now, I wonder if there has ever been a single person that I wanted to teach magic to, by my own decision. There may have been, I don't know, at the very least I don't remember.

While I was thinking these things, Ryouma-sama closed his eyes, and

focused solely on concentrating his spirit.

What a brilliant child, to actually be able to concentrate to this extent… however, it does beg the question, what kind of training did he undergo to become like this?

Now that I think about it, when I met Ryouma-sama for the first time, he was quite the twisted boy. When I first heard about him, I found out that he was a strange boy who was living in the forest without his parents. When I had finally met him in person, I noticed his appearance to be quite neat, considering the time he had spent isolated in the forest. When he first spoke, it was a manner of speech so polite that he would pass even as a noble. And when he had invited us inside, what he brought out for us was the highest class of black tea coupled with the luxurious honey.

His house was like that of a noble's. It was sturdy, comfortable, and even had its own bath. Appearance aside, if only comfort were to be taken into consideration, then it could definitely be lined up alongside the houses of those nobles.

But more than anything, what was unusual was the knowledge and techniques he possessed. He researched

slimes, which no one had been researching, and with the Cleaner Slime and the Scavenger Slime he was able to make his life more comfortable. He even managed to create water proof cloths and thread of a quality that has never before seen.

On the way to Gimuru, he mentioned that he was able to extract the poison from the rock salt that could be taken from the mountain. When Rheinhart-sama showed his interest in it as a product, he said, "The amount is

insufficient, if we were to bring that into the market, we'd lose out to the others that can produce more." That moment, he showed a knowledge that only someone who was raised as a noble or as the son of merchant would have.

And even now, I can still see it, the empty eyes he showed when we got to the town, and the ability he showed when he protected the Ojousama from the ruffians. And when we got to this town, he was able to put a stop to an epidemic that no one knew of, a young boy like that managed to achieve such a splendid achievement.

What is normally impossible for other children, this child does. This child normally shows an adult-like exterior but, recently he seemed to have started to open up his heart to us a bit, and from time to time will shows

us an expression befitting his age. Ryouma-sama is….

“Sebasu-san?”

Oh, I forgot myself there for a moment.

“Yes, what is it?”

“I think I can do it, let me show you.”

“Please, go ahead.”

“Alright, I’m going. ‘Warp’.”

In the next moment, Ryouma-sama disappeared and then reappeared at the top of the rock I pointed at, a while ago. Seeing that, I too warped to the rock.

“Congratulations. Ryouma-sama has successfully learned the mid-level space magic, Warp.”

“Yey! Thank you! Sebasu-san!”

Fufu… at times like this, he acts like his age, huh?

“Well then, next, I’ll begin the explanations for Dimension Home. At its core, it is generally the same. Ryouma-sama is to open a hole, and inside that hole spread it wide, and with Ryouma-sama’s image create a big room inside. It’s the same up to this part as with the Item Box. But, leaving the long explanation aside, in this instance, please create a scenery inside the space that is similar to the one here. The Dimension Home is different from the Item Box in that it has its own atmosphere. And it’s because of that, that living inside or keeping animals inside is possible. If the magic fails to replicate this, then it is the low level magic, Item Box.”

“Alright, I got it.”

As Ryouma-sama said that, he started concentrating again. Because it’s a difficult magic, far more complex than Warp, Ryouma-sama is desperately trying to grasp the feeling of the magic.

Ryouma-sama tried to use Dimension Home but, even after several tries, all that came out was an empty hole.

During that time I would let Ryouma-sama know that it’s a failure and once again, Ryouma-sam will concentrate, try again, and fail.

Repeating that, Ryouma-sama began to soak in sweat, but despite this, Ryouma-sama’s concentration wasn’t broken. And then, from time to time,

while taking a break, Ryouma-sama would practice. Like this, we passed an hour, a second, a third, and finally a fourth. When the fourth hour struck, Ryouma-sama chanted as if he was whispering.

"… 'Dimension Home' …"

At that moment, Ryouma-sama managed to create a white hole that is connected to an empty space with

Dimension Home.

"Congratulations. Ryouma-sama has also succeeded with Dimension Home."

"Yes! Thank you so much! Like this I'll be able to put the slimes inside and carry them with me!"

"I'm happy to have been of help to Ryouma-sama. Also, if the dimentions of this space that Ryouma-sama had created just now were to be too narrow, it is possible to increase the size of a new space at the cost of a significant amount of magic power. In such a case, please remember, that a black empty hole means a failure, and a white hole means success."

"Understood!"

"Well then, let's return to where the Ojousama and the others are, since it's already gotten quite dark."

"Eh……? Ah!? Time flew by quite fast, huh?"

Looks like he didn't notice it.

"It's because Ryouma-sama was focused. Well then, let's go. 'Warp'."

Chapter 19

TL Note: The guy was awkward in the raws and so I tried to make the guy awkward in English… I tried… and the result was… well, a little… fabulous… so to speak.

~Side Ryouma~

Because I focused too much, I lost track of the time. Sebasu-san was the one who told me that it was getting late, right after he said that, he brought me to where Elia and the others were with Warp.

"Welcome back, Ryouma-san."

"Welcome home. It's quite late already, how far did you guys go?"

"Did you manage to learn a new magic?"

As soon as they noticed us they came up to us. The first to greet me was Elia, followed by the madam and Rheinbach-sama.

"Yes I somehow managed to, thanks to Sebasu-san and Camil-san."

"Good to hear, can you show us?"

At Rheinbach-sama's request I fired off the magic I learned from Camil-san from start to finish. Although normally in order to open the entrance, 10 seconds would be needed… but this is an important training.

"'Dimension Home'."

Looks like it worked. When I tried to open it, aside from Sebasu-san, everyone was frozen. …….. Oh yeah, for kids my age, just opening the Item Box is considered good. I forgot about that when I had learned the Dimension Home…

The four members of the household immediately crowded Sebasu-san, but almost right after they came over to me and praised me. After that we were going to go home already, but since it was a nice opportunity I figured I'd practice my Warp too since it seems to be that the best way to practice Space Magic is by doing it over and over.

But just in case, I asked Sebasu-san to come with me.

On the way, Sebasu-san suddenly came to talk to me as if he had just remembered something.

“Ryouma-sama, we plan to go to the abandoned mine tomorrow in order to give the Ojousama some battle

experience. If it’s alright, won’t Ryouma-sama also come with us?”

“Ok, will it be ok for me to come?”

“Of course, the Ojousama will also be happy. Does Ryouma-sama have any other weapon aside from the bow?

The interior of the abandoned mine is quite narrow so I can’t recommend using the bow. And also, wearing an armor will be necessary.”

“Will a short sword do? And also, I can fight hand-to-hand but I don’t have any armor.”

“Yes, a short sword will do just fine. Even if I say we’re going to go there to fight monsters, they are actually quite weak and also we will have some guards with us. After all, we’re going there to accumulate experience for the Ojousama so it’s just as important to make sure the goal is achievable.”

“Then I’ll go with the short sword. And as for the armor…”

If I remember correctly, I got a letter of introduction from the Guild Master.

“I think I’ll try to go buy some when we get back to the town. I did get a letter of introduction from the Guild Master to a good shop, so this is a good opportunity.”

“I see, that’s good to hear.”

After that we separated when we got to the gate of the town. Sebasu-san went back to the lodging, and as for me I went straight to the weapon shop. When I found the weapon shop, I immediately entered and what greeted me inside was the weird smile of a rough-looking man.

“Welcome to my beautiful shop, is there anything that the esteemed customer may require?”

“Y–yes… I’m looking for a weapon I can use inside a narrow area, specifically for the abandoned mine. And also some armor, please.”

“Then if that’s the case may the esteemed customer, please take a look at the short swords on this beautiful shelf over here.”

“… um, please don’t take offense to this, but isn’t it rather… forced?”

“…….You noticed?”

"……Yes it's quite… easy to notice."

How can it be not easy to notice when your smile would break after a few seconds and would make a funny face?

When I let him know that it wasn't working, the man's face changed almost immediately to an unsociable one.

"Ah… I give up, I give up! Sorry 'bout that, but I was told by someone I knew that I'm too unsociable so I tried being a bit more sociable but, it really doesn't suit me at all."

"Is that so? Ah, this is the Digger Arms Shop, right?"

"Yeah, that's right. And what of it?"

"I've received a letter of introduction from the Guild Master of the adventurer guild. I was told to go here and show this."

As I said that, I gave the letter of introduction.

"Wogan, huh? That's unusual. You're a newbie, right? Do you have money?"

"Yes. I'm unaware of the market price for weapons but I can pay up to 30 small gold coins."

"If you can pay that much, then it's enough. What have you been using up till now?"

"I normally use a bow but inside the abandoned mine it's a bit…"

"I see… then in that case, just as you've said before a short sword and you want something that's one handed, right?"

"Then in that case…. 2 short swords, and aside from that, do you have some throwing knives?"

I do have the Throwing Skill, it'd be a waste if all I used it for is to throw rocks so I might as well buy some now.

"1 small gold coin per 10 knives. It's a bit expensive but they're well-made and you can use them again for quite a long time as long as you retrieve them after throwing."

"Then in that case please give me 10 throwing knives and 2 short swords."

"It's 2 small gold coins for one short sword, so along with the 10 throwing knives, it totals to 5 small gold coins.

Aside from that, you also need an armor, right?”

“Yes, as much as possible I’d like something easy to move in… what kind do you have for sale?”

“If you want something easy to move in, then you want hide armor. If it’s something made from the skin of magical beasts, then it can even be tougher than an armor made of metal that’s poorly made. There are also magic enchanted full armors that can provide the same level of movement as hide armors, but those aren’t available in the market, and if they are, they’re ludicrously expensive such that the price would start with at least a white gold coin.”

“Then, I’ll purchase one set of hide armor made from magical beasts.”

“Got it. But the thing is I only have two kinds that can fit your size right now. Other than that I’d have to adjust it, and it’ll take a day. So what will with it be? You want to see everything?”

I’m going to use it tomorrow so let’s choose something we can buy now.

“I’m going to the mine tomorrow, so please give me something I can purchase today.”

“Got it.”

The man went inside and then came back with two kinds of armor.

“Both of these are hide armors made from the skin of magical beasts. One is made out of the skin of Grell Frogs.

It’s flexible, easy to move in, and in its own way it’s quite strong. It goes for 4 medium silver coins.”

Frog skin, huh? ……. It’s like rubber.

“The other one is made out of the skin of a Hard Lizard. This one’s a bit expensive and costs 5 small gold coins.”

The price is on a different level compared to the one called Grell Frog, huh?

“The price difference is quite big.”

“It’s a question of raw materials. The Hard Lizard lives in the wild but it’s very hard to find. Also it’s hard to hunt because it uses magic power and has an ability similar to the neutral magic Harden. Unless you have a good sword arm you won’t be able to cut the skin, and if you use magic, you might end up damaging the goods.”

Harden covers the body with magic and makes it difficult for the body to be cut. A magical beast that can use that will definitely be hard to hunt…

"In order to defeat one, one needs both luck and skill but if you put in a little bit of magic power in it, it will harden. It may be the ability of the beast, but the skin also possesses that nature. And also, even if it hardens, it's not like it turns fully rigid. Instead it will keep its flexibility while increasing its toughness.

It's light, easy to move in, and is normally robust, but if you put a bit of magic power into it, it will become even more robust. And because of that, people that don't have a lot of physical strength, like magicians, tend to buy this kind of armor.

I actually got the skin for this quite a fair bit back, and there weren't a lot of it so I was only able to make an armor that would fit the size of a kid like you.

Because of that, it wouldn't fit most of the adventurers, and adventurers that are around your age don't have money. And because there are no materials, I couldn't make it bigger either. And so, in the end, I wasn't able to sell it for the past 2 years. So, if you have the money I'd be really grateful if you could take this off me. If it's just quality, then this one is way better."

True, from what I've heard, this one is definitely better. And besides it's a shop that was recommended by the Guild Master and it also doesn't look like the type that overcharges…

"Then in that case I'll have the Hard Lizard Hide Armor."

"I see, thanks. The armor plus the weapons, altogether costs a total of 10 small gold coins."

I take the money from the Item Box, and pay him with it.

"Here you go."

I put the armor, the short sword, and the throwing knives into my Item Box.

"Thank you very much. When I need something I'll come here again. My name is Ryouma Takebayashi, it was a pleasure to meet you."

"I'm the shop keeper, Dalton Digger. Don't do anything reckless, and if you take care of your things, they'll last you a long time. Use those armors until you grow out of them, then at that time, come over and buy a new one, I'll give you some service."

At those words, I give him my thanks and then go back to the lodging.

Chapter 20

TL Note: And now a bit of explanation on how the author actually names the critters in this story. Not all of them but some, ok? The author pretty much just names the critter with their English version instead of the Japanese names and so there's one line in this chapter which I changed up. Original version just pretty much says oh it's a rat (English) from the word rat (Japanese). That. Yeah…

Today we went to the mine three hours away on carriage. Right now we're standing in front of the entrance to a tunnel. We had guards come with us but aside from Jamil and the rest, everyone else went to a different tunnel to hunt magical beasts.

"Let's do our best! Ryouma-san!"

Elia is really fired up today. Normally she wears a simple but high class ladylike dress, but today she's wearing an easy to move in shirt and a pair of pants. And on top of that she's wearing an armor made out of the hide of a magical beast.

The ones who entered the tunnel in front of me were Elia, Jill-san, Camil-san, Zeff-san, Hyuzu-san, and myself.

Rheinhart-san, the Madam, and Rheinbach-sama also came to the mine but Rheinhart-san and madam were

apparently going together, and Rheinbach-sama was apparently somehow going to a different tunnel by himself.

When I asked Jill-san and the others if it's ok, they said this…

"Don't worry, in the past they travelled together as adventurers. And what's more is that Rheinbach-sama even managed to get an achievement in a skirmish with a neighboring country in the past. So you don't have to worry as they won't even get so much as a scratch from something like the likes of magical beasts that just live in a nearby mine."

Rheinhart-san laughed and said, "The truth is we don't really need guards. We, three, like to go as we please, and if we go out with guards we'll just get attention, so just having Sebasu-san go with us is more than enough.

Haven't you noticed we really didn't have guards follow us in the town?"

“The Jamil Household is different from the other nobles and dislikes pompous things. They’ll even hire people like me who isn’t well mannered as long as they have the skill. And they’ll even talk to people like me normally as long as it isn’t in public or in front of the other nobles.”

Well that’s true. These three do look like skilled experts at sword and magic.

As I listened to that story I suddenly noticed that the Madam was waving at me and Elia from the entrance of a separated nearby tunnel. Elia and I waved back, at which the madam waved an even bigger one, one more time, and then she entered the tunnel with Rheinhart-san.

After sending the two off to a different tunnel, we also entered a tunnel. The one leading us is Zeff-san, followed by Jill-san and Hyuzu-san. Who are then followed by me and Elia, and then at the rear most part was Camil-san.

Before going, Zeff-san looked at us and warned us

“Ojousama, and you little boy, ‘tis a lil’ dark here so please watch your steps. People used ‘ta work in this tunnel so there ain’t any here, but there may be some traps in ‘tha dungeon. Finding those little buggers is the job of a scout like me. We may be here for lil’ bit of trainin’ but I’d like ‘ta remind ya not ‘ta go out ahead of us.”

“Yes!”

“Understood.”

After walking for a while we saw something ahead of us and Zeff-san stopped. He also made us stop, and after taking a good look at it…

“Bug?”

For some reason there was a lone bug there that looked like a praying mantis, only, it was around my size.

“You see ‘tha bugger over there little boy? Hehe, just as I’d expect from you, that thing’ over there is a Cave Mantis. ‘Tis a bug class magical beast, it uses its scythe-like hands ‘ta dig holes and lives at ‘ta caves and tunnels it finds.”

“Che! This is gonna be a bit troublesome…”

Hearing that, I couldn’t help but ask

“Is it strong?”

“It’s not strong. The scythes aren’t sharp and its carapace is soft, so when

miners find these little critters they usually get subjugated easily. The problem is that these things reproduce fast, and from time to time a higher class race, Blade Mantis, will come. What makes them doubly annoying is that those guys look like the Cave Mantis, so it's hard to distinguish between the two."

"Because the scythe of the Blade Mantis is sharper than the Cave Mantis' you can't be careless when dealing with a Cave Mantis. If it turns out to actually be a Blade Mantis, you'll get hurt. Be careful."

Elia nodded at those words and said…

"Ok."

"How do we distinguish them?"

"You see… 'tha blade mantis is just a tiny weeny little 'bit bigger. But 'tha thing is that it's really not that big of a difference so you need that 'lil somethin we call experience to distinguish them buggers. That thing over there is a Cave Mantis. I'll lure the bugger, and help you 'lil ones get a closer look, ok?"

After Zeff-san said that, he went near the Cave Mantis by himself until he got its attention, and then he came back. After he reached a place where Elia and I could see clearly, he received the attack of the Cave Mantis with a shield.

"That is a Cave Mantis. Its scythe is a little fast, so please be careful when dealing with it."

"Ojou, take it down with your magic while Zeff is receiving its blows. And do take care not to hit Zeff."

"Don't use Fire Magic, ok? Since here in the cave there's no place for the smoke to go."

"I understand."

"Anytime is fine, Ojousama!"

"Then… 'Ice Arrow'! tch! 'Ice Arrow'!"

The cave mantis dodged the first shot, but Elia fired a second shot almost immediately, and was able to take it down.

"The speed of invocation is a pass but please try to aim better."

"I understand."

After that we walked for around 2 minutes until we found another Cave

Mantis again. This time, there were 4.

“What will we do? A while ago Ojou did one, so I thought Ryouma would do this one but… 4 all of the sudden may be a bit too much?”

When I heard that I replied to him that I’ll try.

“Be careful.”

I nodded at those words, took out two of my short swords, and invocated the neutral magic, ‘Harden’.

I then ran up to the cave mantis. Noticing, me it turned towards me and then raised its scythe. Before the cave mantis brought its scythe down I took down the right foreleg supporting its body with a kick from my left leg and broke it. The cave mantis lost its balance and fell. I bring my right leg up and put my strength into it as I stomp against the head of the cave mantis, crushing it, then almost immediately turning to face the other two mantis that have already started rushing towards me.

Focusing on the timing of the second bugs’ scythes, raising up and striking down. I rotate my body 80 degrees counterclockwise at the perfect timing, just barely dodging the scythe. Continuing the movement of that rotation, I swing the short sword in my right hand, cutting its joint as the short sword in my left hand flashes by, decapitating the bug.

At that moment, the third cave mantis came at me from behind. I quickly change my backhand grip to a forehand grip as I rotate my body counterclockwise. I receive its blow with my right sword and parry it, as I do so the sword in my left hand mercilessly flashes by as it severs its head from its body.

Immediately right after, the fourth cave mantis came sweeping with its left scythe. As I dodge the approaching scythe, I receive it with my right sword and then I cut off its joint with my left. The cave mantis didn’t back off and came sweeping with its right scythe, this time, I block it with my left and then sever its joint with my right sword. Having lost both its scythes, the mantis was left with no weapons to fight with and had its head lopped off by me.

Having ended the battle, I headed back to where Elia and the rest were.

“Good job, looks like you don’t have any problems even with close combat. Ojou, bug type magical beasts are tough so please don’t be careless until you're able to separate its head or crush it like Ryouma did, ok?”

“I understand.”

"It's good that you took extra measures and even used the hardening magic. With that, even if you were hit there would've been no problems."

Elia gave me a glance of admiration and said…

"As expected of Ryouma-san."

Really, it's because I've already gotten used to the green caterpillars back in the Forest of Gauna. Those things were weak, but they were a kind of magical beast that had high vitality.

We started walking again and after 30 minutes of walking, the only monsters to come out were the cave mantises.

So, rather than training, it turned out to be a dull extermination job. As we kept doing that, we eventually reached the deepest part of the tunnel.

"Looks like this is the end."

"It was quite long but it was a straight road, so I guess this is the end?"

"There are no more roads left so there should be no more monsters."

"So are we ending here?"

"This place is basically a trench so although it's long there aren't any complicated roads. Doesn't seem like we have any other choice other than to go back."

"It's unfortunate though, that only one kind of monster came out. I thought a bit more of a variety would come out but…"

"The cave bats and the small mice were most likely eaten by the cave mantises."

So basically a bunch of mice and bats, huh? *(TL Note: this is the line I was talking about)*

"There's no point in talking about something like that here. Let's go back."

With everyone agreeing with Hyuzu-san, we went out the tunnel. While we went out the tunnel, I took my slimes out of the Dimension Home and had them eat the cave mantises on the ground. When we got out, Rheinhart-san and the Madam were waiting for us.

The madam was the first to greet us.

"Welcome home~"

"How was it?"

Elia, brimming with pride, puffed out her chest and said…

“Mother, father, I managed, to take down over 10 cave mantises!”

“That’s pretty good for a first battle.”

“But from midway onwards, Ryouma took the lead and took down over 20!”

Said Elia, looking like she was brimming with even more pride now.

“Did you get protected by Ryouma-kun?”

“Were there that many cave mantises there?”

Asked the Madam and Rheinhart-san respectively.

“Well from the looks of things, it would seem that the cave we entered was a nest of cave mantises. There wasn’t a single magical beast aside from the cave mantises.”

“Then in that case let’s try entering a different tunnel this afternoon.”

“Before that, though, let’s have some meal since it’s about time the others came back too.”

Being told that, I put my slimes back into the Dimension Home, and was led to an open place where everyone gathered and was having their meal.

That place was the surface of the mine from where the surrounding area could be seen well. The surface of the mine had an unusual pattern of black and reddish brown but there were some areas where heaps of reddish clay could be seen piled up. When I tried asking about it, it turned out to be the assigned area where they would throw away all the dirt they’ve excavated.

“What a waste…”

Although this mine has had a mining rate of mostly zero. That only means that there are no ores right? But it doesn’t mean that the soil doesn’t have iron content. Red soil, that’s the color of rust, right? Since it’s like that, if I were to use Alchemy I would probably be able to create some iron but… since this is already an abandoned mine even if it were to produce a lot of iron it would still be of low quality… and also it seems that Alchemy has a bad reputation so…

As I was thinking something like that, the preparation for our meal was completed and Elia called me over to eat.

Chapter 21

Ryouma had lunch with the four members of the Duke's household.

At the start they were talking about how Elia fought, but midway through Elia suddenly said this.

"By the way Ryouma-san, what were you thinking about a while ago?'

"A while ago? What do you mean?"

"A while ago you were looking around and saying 'what a waste', right?"

When Ryouma heard those words, he stiffened.

"Ah, it's no–nothing special…"

The words that came out were obviously a lie. Since Ryouma wasn't using his grandparents as an excuse this time, his excuse was very poor, and everyone was able to figure it out.

Elia was the first to point it out.

"How very suspicious, Ryouma-san."

"You're not really good at lying."

Mentioned Rheinbach-sama at the obvious lie.

"Is it something hard to mention?"

"If you have something to say, it's ok to say it, you know?"

Inquired Rheinhart-san as the madam tried to support Ryouma.

Realizing that his attempt to fool them had failed, he gave up.

"Do you remember the conversation we had before arriving at the Town of Gimuru? That story about the salt mountain."

Rheinhart-san, suddenly understanding, said, "Ah… I see. It's fine, the ones here are just us, Sebasu, Araune, and Lilian. Araune and Lilian won't spread rumors, and the other men are eating at a different place."

"I see. Then you know I can use Alchemy, right?"

"Yeah, I've heard of it."

Answered Rheinhart-san as he told Araune and Lilian about Ryouma.

When they heard the word 'Alchemy' they were shocked, but did not give any sign of contempt. Ryouma gave a sigh of relief and then began talking.

"This mine will become an abandoned mine, right?"

Rheinbach-sama nodded.

"That's right. The papers have already been processed."

"So what about it?"

"I think I can still produce some iron from this mine if I use Alchemy."

At those words, this time everyone else aside from Ryouma stiffened.

Rheinbach-sama couldn't help but ask, "Is that really true?"

"Yes. I once talked about how I managed to remove the poison from the salt in the salt mountain in the Forest of Gana, right?"

"Yes, I've heard of it."

"In the same way I removed the poison from the salt, this time I can gather the soil and produce iron. That red soil is the color of rust. Say, if one were to leave his sword wet, over time it would get rusty, right?"

"Of course."

"In the same way the soil that has iron content in it will have the same color. That's why there is definitely iron in that soil. I believe if I use Alchemy's Separation on that soil once or twice, then I'll be able to extract a lump of iron. Only thing is, if an abandoned mine were to suddenly start producing iron again, it would cause a fuss, right?

So since it's not possible to get it by digging as you would normally, and since there's a problem with using Alchemy, I thought, 'What a waste…'."

"That's true but… Ryouma-kun, if you think you can do it, why don't you try doing it? I actually have a way to sell something like that legally without catching attention."

"Alright."

Replied Ryouma cheerfully. After having their meal, the other guards went on their own ways to dispatch the monsters. With them gone, Ryouma and the rest began their operation. Ryouma prepared the magic formation that is essential to Alchemy by drawing a square inside a circle. He then put the reddish soil into a stone container he made using Earth Magic and

then placed it on top of the magic formation.

“Then, I’ll start. It’s dangerous, so please do not go inside the magic formation.”

As Ryouma said that he allowed his magic power to flow into the magic formation causing it to illuminate. From inside the shining magic formation, the soil and the stone vessel was being pushed out. When the light had disappeared, all that was left inside the formation was the silver colored sand of iron.

After Ryouma had confirmed that, he quickly drew a pentagram within a circle. He placed the silver colored sand of iron on that and allowed magic to flow into the magic formation.

This is the magic formation when using Alchemy’s ‘Synthesis’. The practitioner needs to know the original material and the material it will synthesize into. From this, the practitioner will be able to make the material on the magic formation synthesize turning it into one lump, making it possible to create an alloy from several metals.

With this, Ryouma turned the iron content he brought out into an iron ingot. Confirming that, he used ‘Identify’.

And then this came out:

Iron Ingot

It is an iron ingot with 100% purity.

Having understood that he had succeeded, Ryouma handed the ingot to Rheinhart-san and had him use ‘Identify’

on it.

“You really were able to do it……I’m sorry, Ryouma-kun.”

Rheinhart was shocked that Ryouma was actually able to produce iron. While he was dumfounded for a while, he quickly put himself together and bowed his head deeply. At that sudden behavior, Ryouma was at a lost.

“Eh!? Why all of the sudden!? Please raise your head!”

At those words Rheinhart raised his head but he spoke with a face that looked very apologetic.

“Although I didn’t think you’d swindle others, but because there are a lot of people who say they can make gold and swindle others, I thought for sure you wouldn’t be able to do it. I’m sorry for not having been able to

trust you.”

When Ryouma finally understood what was bothering Rheinhart, he immediately told him that he doesn’t mind, however, Rheinhart did not look satisfied. Rheinhart kept apologizing, and Ryouma kept forgiving, their

conversation kept moving parallel to each other until Elize and Rheinbach finally interfered. When they finished talking, Sebasu spoke up.

“Rheinhart-sama, about this iron…”

“Right! We need to prepare to sell these iron ingots…”

“Unfortunately, we cannot sell these things.”

“What? Why is it no good?”

“This thing is certainly iron and Ryouma-sama’s ability to perform Alchemy is truly awe-inspiring, however, there is just one problem, the purity is too high.”

Having been told that, Rheinhart, Elize, and Rheinbach used ‘Identify’ again. Afterwards, they each breathe out a defeated sigh. Seeing those three’s expressions, Ryouma couldn't help but ask what was wrong.

Apparently in this world, the highest purity that can be sold has 10% impurity. And the inferior ones have greater than 40%. If there happened to be an iron with 0% impurity, meaning a pure iron, there would be a huge

commotion over it and there would be many people who would try to find out the manufacturing method.

Receiving that explanation, Ryouma realized what the problem was. At the same time, he thought of a way to fix it.

Ryouma quickly drew a hexagram within a circle, and put on top of it the ingot and the soil he got when he extracted the iron. And then he allowed his magic power to flow into the formation.

The hexagram formation is for using Alchemy’s ‘Mixing’. Using this, one will be able to mix several materials without bias. Because of this, Ryouma was able to lower the purity of the ingot by mixing it with the original material. As a result its color changed to black. When he used identify on it this came out:

Iron Ingot

An iron ingot with 10% impurity

When he gave it to Rheinhart-san, they couldn't help but be shocked. At the same time, though, they showed great joy since with this, it can now be sold.

After that, because Rheinhart and Sebasu-san were figuring out who to sell the iron to, the afternoon monster hunt party ended up becoming Ryouma, Elia, Elize and Rheinbach.

“Good grief, I’m happy that guy is trying to improve the town I made but when he’s like that, he becomes impossible to deal with.” Grumbled, Rheinbach.

“Really, father…” The madam looked at Rheinhart and asked, “I’m troubled that you’re neglecting Ryouma and Elia. You don’t think so?”

“I am also a part of the cause… and also isn’t it better that Rheinhart-san is doing his work rather than being lazy.”

Because Ryouma was also the same kind of person who would lose track of everything around him when caught up in his work, it wasn't actually possible for him to scold Rheinhart.

The madam helplessly said, “Well that’s true… ah, we arrived.”

Ryouma and Elia arrived in front of the entrance to another tunnel.

“Well then, from here on you guys decide on how to move. I and father-in-law will only go along with you guys from here on. We’ll save you when it gets dangerous, but aside from that we won’t do anything at all.”

“Since this is to help Elia gain some experience and since Ryouma-kun already has some experience, Ryouma will also have to step back. If she needs help, at most just talk to her.”

Suddenly having a problem pushed onto you, a normal person would be troubled. Elia, however, was someone who had always received their training.

And so this is how she replied, “I understand, I’ll do my best.”

From the looks of things, it would appear she’s used to suddenly being given a problem.

“It’s dark and I can’t see very well.”

Elia was different compared to Ryouma who had always hunted during the night in the forest.

“Ryouma-san, what do you do when hunting during the night?”

“If you do it for a long time you’ll get used to it but… if it’s ok for us to be seen, then it’s fine to use the light magic, ‘light’ as many times as you want. If you don’t want to be found out then using the neutral magic, ‘Search’

would be best. There’s still a chance of being discovered through the perception of magic but it’s still better than

‘Light’.”

“I can’t use Search. Can Ryouma-san use Search?”

“I can use it.”

“How do I use it? I know the theory, but I don't actually know how to apply it.”

Hearing that, Ryouma thought for a while. Then he created a container made out of stone with earth magic and filled it up with water using water magic.

“Please look at this.”

“What will you do with this?”

Ryouma showed the vessel to Elia, and then dropped a rock in the middle of it causing waves to rise within the small vessel.

“The center of the rock is one’s self. The waves are the flow of magic power. Imagine yourself to be at the center and allow your magic power to become like these waves of water. Then allow it to spread to your surroundings where you think the monster may be.”

Ryouma then, continued to drop small rocks on the vessel while sinking the waves with water magic. After a while, he dropped a rock one more time, but this time the wave could clearly be seen stopping at some point when it hit a rock.

“In a similar sense, this is how a monster could interrupt the wave you are releasing, and is the reaction that you will get when using Search if there is a person or a monster in the area.”

“I get it. That explanation was really easy to understand. Well then, ‘Search’!”

Elia immediately invocated the magic, ‘Search’. At that instant, magic power flowed into the surroundings with Elia as its center.

“There are a lot of monsters just a little bit ahead of us!”

“Looks like it worked, unfortunately though, you put too much magic power. Using a lot is a waste, and also if there were a magician on their side, we’d be found out.”

“Is that so? Looks like I need to practice.”

“Search goes alongside with the duty of the vanguard, so I’ll do it. It will be better for Elia to focus on magic.”

“I understand. Thank you, Ryouma-san.”

Ryouma nodded and invocated ‘Search’. And as Elia mentioned, there were a lot of monsters ahead.

“If we go this way, the road will get wider and there’s an empty cave ahead. I am getting a lot of response from the ceiling of that place. It looks like there are plenty of monsters filling the ceiling, they’re probably cave bats.”

Rheinbach-san nodded, “If they’re in the ceiling, then they’re probably cave bats.”

The Madam followed, “If there’s so much of them that they’re filling up the ceiling then… Elia, will you be alright?”

“They’re small and on top of that they’re fast, so one or two would be good practice, but…” Said Rheinbach-sama.

“Then in that case, do you mind if I try out an experiment?’

Hearing that, the three couldn't help but ask at the same time, “Experiment?”

“Yes. If it goes well I may be able to round up the bats.”

Ryouma then explained while he confirmed the bat’s ecology.

At that, he found out that the Cave Bat’s ecology is not that different from the bats of Earth. Knowing that, Ryouma proposed the use of sound. He figured, if they were to use a magic that can create a powerful sound, it should be able to knock the cave bats out.

Actually, while he was living in the forest, Ryouma was able to create several sound magic.

A magic that silences the sound surrounding the target, ‘Silent’. A magic that does the opposite and makes the sound louder, ‘Big Voice’. A magic that allows sound to reach far, ‘Whisper’. While practicing Big Sound, Ryouma was accidently able to produce a sound explosion capable of destroying the ear drums, which he called

‘Stun Sound’ and by combining it with ‘Whisper’ he was able to create a remote non-lethal magic called ‘Sound Bomb.

Sound Bomb is extremely powerful but it has the downside of making a big noise. Using this magic, it was possible to destroy the ear drums of the Black Bear in one shot, causing it to faint. Ryouma figured that if this was used against the bats it would have some effect.

Only, there were currently three problems. The first is whether or not the noise it produces will cause the tunnel to collapse or not, the second is whether there are people around or not and the last one is what will happen if it fails to dispose of the bats.

Ryouma asked Rheinbach about the first question and as it turns out, since the tunnel has been strengthened by earth magic, there’s nothing to worry about regarding the cave collapsing. As for the second problem, it’s possible to figure out if there are any people around by just using ‘Search’ and then in the instance that the ‘Sound Bomb’

fails to dispose of the bats, then Ryouma will deal with it using the slimes.

Ryouma brought out the Sticky Slime from the Dimension Home and using ‘Enlarge’ had it block the tunnel, giving it the order to act as some kind of net. The slime, following that order, used the ‘Sticky Liquid’ to create a net. Ryouma then put up a sound proofing barrier preventing the sound from the outside from going inside.

“‘Search’ …… Good, there’s no one there. The preparations have been completed.”

Rheinbach nodded.

“We're ready as well, you can go anytime you want.”

“Then in that case, ‘Sound Bomb’.”

At that instance, a tremendous sound erupted like an explosion from outside the barrier, echoing within the tunnels.

The cave bats in the ceiling of the tunnel were unable to run and most of them fainted. The ones that were able to run away were only 10, but those cave bats were unable to fly steadily and ended up hitting against the walls.

There were also some bats that went over to Ryouma’s side, but they got caught in the net and were unable to move.

“Looks like a success. Let’s go.”

Removing the barrier and the slime's net, the four headed over to where the bats were. When they got there, a significant number of cave bats could be seeing lying on the floor.

Seeing that, Rheinbach and the Madam couldn't help but praise, "This is amazing."

"It's true that cave bats aren't particularly dangerous, but they're kind of hard to kill. To think that a child would be able to deal with them so easily, I don't think something like this has happened before."

"Amazing, Ryouma-san!"

"The experiment seemed to have ended well. Ah... these, is it ok if I feed these to my slimes?"

"Well cave bats don't really sell that well so..."

Hearing that, Ryouma made the sticky slime split and had the 364 sticky slimes eat all of the cave bats. After that, Ryouma felt that the sticky slimes have become able to split again, so he decided to have them split once he got back home to the lodging.

After that, Ryouma and his slime continued to support Elia while she hunted the small rats for the next hour.

Afterwards, the four people left the tunnel. After they had rested, they were planning to go to the next dungeon, but at that moment, Rheinhart came over.

And then he said, "Ryouma-kun, can you make a few more samples of the iron we are going to sell?"

And so, because of that, Ryouma had to separate from the others to make more ingots.He finished the ingots fairly quickly, but the three had already gone into the tunnel. Being bored, Ryouma thought of entering a tunnel but instead started making the slimes split.

However that also ended in an hour and without anything to do, Ryouma took out the slimes from the Dimension Home and passed the time by training.

Ryouma used Earth Magic to make a rod out of stone and used it along with his fists to hit the slimes. In response, the slimes either dodged that or defended.

Ryouma did something like this from time to time while in the forest to train the slimes. The slimes may be weak monsters but unless one hits the nucleus inside their body or hits the soft semi-liquid body of theirs,

they can’t die.

The slime can make the nucleus inside its body go anywhere. So when Ryouma is fighting the slimes, the slimes move the nucleus to the opposite direction to protect it and escape from the attack with its semi-liquid body. In the instance where it is kicked to the ground, the slimes can do the same thing to negate the damage.

Right after taming it wasn’t possible, but after being together for a long time, Ryouma began to see the slimes making skillful movement and so he began the training.

Ryouma focused on teaching the slimes the foundation of battle techniques on dodging and defending. Like going under the bosom of the opponent coming at you to cut you down to dodge, and entwining yourself around the hand holding the sword that has come near you or making use of the semi-liquid body and using the enemy’s weapon to parry.

Moreover, while slimes are normally unable to fight except by ramming their body against their opponents, Ryouma’s slimes are able to extend tentacles and use it like some sort of whip. There are also some that can counter attack with weapons as if they were using their hands. Nowadays there are slimes that can extend their bodies and use spears and pseudo-rod techniques.

Also, while Ryouma was practicing with the slimes, Lilian was watching. Lilian couldn’t’ believe her eyes when she saw the slimes executing movements that slimes normally couldn’t, however, Ryouma didn’t notice this.

After this, Lilian went to Sebasu and asked, “Are Slimes able to use battle techniques?” Because of that Sebasu began to worry about her health. Fortunately though, she was able to solve the misunderstanding when she mentioned that she was talking about Ryouma’s slimes. However, being unable to believe that slimes could use battle techniques, Sebasu said, “Ryouma-sama’s slimes are able to perform skillful movements so maybe that’s what you saw?” Hearing that, Lilian was convinced and she forgot about the slimes.

“Ryouma-san!”

“Elia, you’re done with your training?”

“Yes, the training for today has ended. But more than that, I have a present for Ryouma san.”

“Present?”

“Fufufu… If it’s Ryouma, I wonder if you’ll like it?”

As Elia and Elize said that, Rheinbach came with a box made out of a stone. Looks like it was made with earth magic.

“Inside this is a magical beast, it’s weak but you should still be careful.”

Hearing that it’s a magical beast, Ryouma opened the lid while being cautious. In the next moment, Ryouma was captivated when he saw what was inside.

“Slime?”

What was inside was a dark grey Slime. It was obviously not a normal slime, but it was a kind of slime Ryouma had never seen.

“It’s a high class slime called Metal Slime. We saw it by chance so we caught it.”

“Thank you very much! I’m really happy! To have another slime, and what’s more, a new kind…”

Ryouma gave his thanks to the other three and then began to observe the slime. The three were happy that Ryouma happily received it but when he started observing, they couldn’t help but give a wry smile.

At that, Rheinbach reminded Ryouma, “Even if it’s a slime it's still a magical beast so it’ll be better for you to make a contract with it now.”

As if he head just remembered it when Rheinbach mentioned it, Ryouma enacted the Slave Monster Contract.

After that, until it was time to go back, Ryouma made some iron out of the red soil and gave it to the slime, wondering whether or not it would eat it.

The result was that the metal slime did in fact eat the lump of iron but needed time. So instead he used Alchemy to turn the ingot into its previous sand like state and the slime was able to eat it quickly.

Ryouma hypothesized that the slime had most likely eaten the soil with metal content, and as a result it ended up evolving like that.

And so he thought of using the sand-like iron that the metal slime liked to eat as lure. And then made a contract with the lured slime. He continued to feed the slime iron for the sake of ascertaining of whether or not the evolution condition is to feed it metal. If it does evolve, then that will prove that the hypothesis is correct.

After that, he was told that they were about to leave and so Ryouma got

permission from Rheinhart to get a huge amount of red soil as feed for the slime, and put it in a corner in his Dimension Home.

He used 'Create Block' on the red soil and had the slimes transport it. Like this he was able to secure a huge number of red soil. At this point, Ryouma began to feel that he's starting to reach the limit of his magic power. A sensation that he hasn't felt in a while.

Ryouma rode the carriage in that condition and was heading for the town but while he was there, Rheinhart told him this…

"I know you're tired and I'm sorry about this, but can you go with me for a while? I want to go to the place of the person who will work with us to sell the iron, the slime thread, and the water proof cloth that you made. He's a trustworthy person, so I thought of introducing Ryouma-kun as well."

Since Ryouma-kun was only a little tired, he felt that there was nothing wrong with going, and he agreed.

After that, 1 hour had passed and they finally reached the town. They then stopped in front of a huge shop.

"Well, well. What a pleasant surprise to have the members of the Duke's Household come. Welcome."

When they entered the store, they immediately went deep inside the shop and entered a big room. When they got there, another man entered as well. That man couldn't really be called fat, but he certainly had a stout figure.

When he came, Rheinhart greeted him.

"Serge, it's been a while."

"Yes. It's unfortunate that I am unable to get many opportunities to meet with the members of the Duke's Household like this. But I'm happy to see that you are all doing well. And as for this young lad here, I believe it's the first time we've met. My name is Serge Morgan. I am the president of the Morgan Firm."

"I am Ryouma Takebayashi. Because of some twist of fate I've come to be in the care of the Jamil Household. It's a pleasure to meet you."

Although Serge was surprised at Ryouma's manner of speech, he showed a smile. And in response Ryouma also smiled. And although this man's manner of speech was similar to Matthew of the Tamer Guild, Ryouma wasn't able to feel the sort of ill will he felt from Matthew.

Like this their greetings ended, and they went onto the main topic.

Chapter 22

~ Side Ryouma ~

It’s the biggest store that gives off a high class ambience so far, but Rheinhart-san and the others went to the reception room as if it were normal.

I was a bit out of place, but… in order not to do anything that would inconvenience the others, I stayed meekly by Sebasu-san’s side.

After waiting for a bit, a man with a good build came. I think he might be the owner of the store.

“Well, well. What a pleasant surprise to have the members of the Duke’s Household come. Welcome.”

Rheinhart-san was the one to greet him.

“Serge, it's been a while.”

“Indeed. It’s unfortunate that I am unable to get many opportunities to meet with the members of the Duke’s Household like this, but I’m happy to see that you are all doing well. And as for this young lad here, I believe it’s the first time we’ve met. My name is Serge Morgan. I am the president of the Morgan Firm.”

Uh-oh, he also came to greet me.

“I am Ryouma Takebayashi. Because of some twist of fate I’ve come to be in the care of the Jamil Household. It’s a pleasure to meet you.”

When I finished introducing myself, he gave me a smile.

He seems to be an acquaintance of Rheinhart-san. I wonder if he’s a good person. Then again, Rheinhart-san won’t introduce me to a weird person, right?

“Well, going straight into business…”

“Yes. I’ve heard you were planning to sell something new again.”

As I was caught up in my thoughts, these 2 suddenly went straight to business. Wait. Again? Rheinhart-san, exactly how many products have you already proposed to be sold?

“Before I show you the product. I need you to promise me that not a word of what I am about to show you will leak out. I know that someone like Serge can be trusted, but just in case.”

“But of course, the information of our business partner is very important to us. If Rheinhart-sama wishes for us not to allow the information to be leaked, then we shall deal with it in a way that will not attract eyes. However, I must say that this is quite unusual coming from Rheinhart-sama. To think that Rheinhart-sama would like to suppress something like that.”

“It’s just for now, and I do have my reasons. I believe that what am I about to show you today will bring us profit on a completely different level than everything so far.”

Will it really become something like that? In my previous world, things like raincoats were a given so… other than intuition, I don’t really know what he’s basing this on.

“Sebasu.”

When Rheinhart-san said that. Sebasu-san opened his item box and took out from it the waterproof cloth, the slime’s thread, and the iron ingot I made. Rheinhart-san took those and showed them to Serge-san.

“This cloth has been treated in a particular way.”

“Would it be alright to take it and examine it?”

“Of course.”

As Serge-san said that, he took the cloth and took a good look at it. He examined it curiously as he rubbed the cloth.

“Oh, it feels good to touch.”

“That cloth isn’t only good for that, you know? That cloth can repel water and prevent it from going through.”

“…Is that true?”

“If you want you can use Identify on it or try it out for real by wrapping it on your hands and dipping it in water.

After all, it’s just a sample we brought, so I don’t mind.”

“Then I’ll accept your offer…”

Serge-san called a servant and asked her to prepare a bowl with water in it. In the meantime, while the bowl was being prepared, Serge-san used

Identify and intently examined the waterproof cloth. After a while his eyes began to sparkle. When the servant came back with the bowl filled with water, he quickly wrapped the waterproof cloth around his hand, dipped it in the water, and after confirming that it is in fact able to repel water, he said this…

"Rheinhart-sama, this is amazing!"

"Right? Don't you think that if we were to turn this material into raingear it would sell?"

"It will! It definitely will!"

Wow! He's really into it!

"What's surprising isn't only that. Next, we have this thread."

"I will examine it."

This time he took a spool of thread, looked at it, touched it, and then tried pulling it. After he had done all that, he then said…

"Was this thread, perhaps, created by the same material used to create the treatment of the waterproof cloth?"

He noticed! That's amazing! Even though he didn't get any hints, he managed to figure something out by

touching it?

Hearing Serge-san's answer, Rheinhart-san smiled as he nodded.

"As expected of Serge. It is exactly as you have thought. The manufacturing process was changed a little bit, but the same thing was used. What do you think? It's a good thread, right?"

"Certainly, if we were to have workers that deal with high-class clothes work with this, it should sell. This thread is also beautiful, but more than anything it's durable."

"We also have an outfit that was made out of that thread and the waterproof cloth from a while ago."

Having said that, what they brought out was the jumpsuit and the waders that I made… wait, what? I have mine with me, so did they make a new one?

"This is an outfit for working in wet places and places where it is easy to get dirty. The design is a bit eccentric, but function-wise it is excellent."

"Indeed, this certainly looks like the kind of cloth that a laborer would

like to work with. If we can let the people know just how good this is, it's possible for this to catch on like wild fire."

"While that something to make this famous is needed, do keep the potential of this product a secret. Also, we have this for last."

After Rheinhart-san put aside the jumpsuit and the waders, he presented the last item, the iron ingot.

"Would it be alright for me to use Identify?"

"Of course."

Serge-san got permission and used Identify but afterwards, as if feeling a little disappointed, his shoulders fell and he said this,

"Since this iron is of good quality it can be put up as a product, however, if I may be so bold there is nothing exceptional about this iron."

"That's right, then how about you take a look at this iron over here?"

Sebasu-sama brought out another iron ingot (ultra-high purity iron) and handed it to Serge-san.

"Is this aluminum? No, the weight is… I will examine this."

As he said that, he used Identify. The moment he used it, the results that came shocked him. He was able to keep his composure, but his face was sweating a lot. It's obvious that he has been greatly shaken.

"Rheinhart-sama, this ingot is…"

"Amazing, right? Don't you think that if we were to start selling this, that it would cause a great commotion?"

"Of course, that's a given. It wouldn't even be strange for spies to come from other countries, looking for its source."

"And that's exactly why I want to put up the other ingot. The ingot you held a while ago is the same as the ingot you're holding now. Only, it went through some process and had its purity reduced."

At those words, Serge-san gave an understanding nod.

"I understand the circumstances, but in that case it will be treated as a normal ingot and will not have any special advantage. Is that ok?"

"It's fine. What we want is for this ingot to be sold discreetly and legally. You see, this ingot came from the abandoned mine."

"Discreetly and legally? If a new ore vein was found in the abandoned

mine, then wouldn't it be best to simply take back its status as an abandoned mine and send people over?"

"That's not possible. Or rather, even if we were to send people there wouldn't be any meaning since we didn't find a new vein. Also, the normal method of mining and refining is also not possible."

"I see. So Rheinhart-sama wants to sell the ingots produced while keeping the method of production of the high purity ingot under wraps, right?"

"Precisely. More specifically, I want it to be exported to a different country. If we were to simply sell it within the country, then it would be necessary to specify exactly where it came from. However, if we were to sell it to a different country, just mentioning what country it came from would be sufficient."

"Yes. There should be no problems with that."

Isn't that alone a problem!? Isn't that way of doing things too sloppy!?

"Also, along with the ingot I also want to entrust Serge with keeping the identity of the manufacturer a secret. Of course, I can ask this because I trust you."

"Thank you very much."

"Although there are 3 products…… the developer responsible for all these is only one."

Oops, this really isn't the time to be shocked. I'm being introduced.

"Each and every one of these three products is amazing. A single person had actually…?"

Hearing Serge-san's words, Rheinhart-san broadly grinned and said, "That's right. The man who developed these things and will produce it from now on is this young boy over here, Ryouma-kun."

The moment Rheinhart-san said that, Serge-san's eyes became a dot and alternately looked at Rheinhart-san and I.

"Right now, what did…?"

"The developer responsible for these products is the Ryouma-kun over here. I understand that this is hard to believe, but it's the truth."

"Did Takebayashi-sama truly make all of these?"

"Yes, I made these myself."

“It’s true. Ryouma, despite being at his age, is already an accomplished researcher and an alchemist. Of course, I’d like for you to keep this confidential.”

When Serge-san heard the word ‘alchemist’ his eyes immediately gave off a quizzical look… as expected,

alchemists are hard to trust, huh?

“I understand that you find it hard to believe, however, he created that ingot right in front of my eyes. He’s not a crook.”

“… I see, so he created it in front of Rheinhart-sama. If it’s alright, I would also like for Takebayashi-sama to show me that ability.”

Oh? Doubting is doubting but it seems he’s at least willing to see for himself. Well I am someone that the Duke brought along… I’m not confident about the remaining magic power I have, but I have to do it.

“I’ve already used up a sizeable portion of my magic power today, would it be ok even if it’s something small?”

“If that’s the case, then I can prepare some magic power recovery potions from my shop. It was my request after all, so at the very least I could provide something like this.”

Eh? Is it ok to take something like that? Well if that’s the case, then there’s no problem. Ah right, anything is fine, but I need to borrow something to write with or I can’t draw the magic formation.

“Then in that case, could I trouble you to lend me a potion, two sheets of paper, and a pen? I need to draw a magic formation, you see?”

Serge-san called the servant again, and made her bring over the magic recovery potion, the paper, and the pen.

“Would this be alright?”

“Yes, it’s sufficient. Thank you very much.”

I give my thanks, and then write two simple magic formations on the two sheets of paper. Afterwards, I take out a red stone block from my Item Box.

“This is the soil from the abandoned mine which I’ve hardened with Earth Magic. Please confirm it.”

Serge-san immediately used Identify.

“Certainly, I’ve confirmed it.”

“Also, it’s dangerous, so please don’t put your hand inside the magic formation. With that, I will begin.”

Just like that time while I was in the mine, I allow the magic power to flow through into the formation. The formation started to glow, and the stone block had its color changed from to red to black as it was pushed outside the formation. The formation shone again, and this time the stone block that had collapsed was pushed out, and all that was left in the formation was a silver-colored sand.

I place that on top of the other magic formation and make the formation glow. As I did so, the silver-colored sand transformed into a plank-shaped object. I then hand that object over to Serge-san.

“Please confirm it.”

When Serge-san used Identify on the plank he received, his body stiffened. And immediately, in the next moment, he stood up, kneeled on the floor, and with he’s head touching the ground said,“I’m sorry!”

“No, no, no, no, no!! It’s fine even if you don’t do something like that so, please raise your head! I’ve already heard about alchemists being doubted, so in my opinion Morgan’s behavior was actually quite good.”

That’s just too much! Why does this person have to apologize to this extent!?

“I’m grateful for those words. I truly had not thought that Takebayashi-sama would actually be a true alchemist.

By any chance, is Takebayashi-sama’s real age actually different from Takebayashi-sama’s outer appearance?”

…huh? …eh, no way… he found out!?

“Excuse me, what are you saying all of the sudden?”

“I’ve heard that a true alchemist was capable of creating immortal medicines and medicines that can bring back one’s youth. Because of all the swindlers, I had thought that it was a lie, but if it’s a real one…”

“No, that’s wrong.”

So that’s what he meant… he shocked me there for a moment…

I show him my status board.

“I can’t create things like immortal medicines or medicines that can bring back one’s youth. There may be a person capable of such things, but at the very least it’s impossible for me. At most what I can do is what you

have seen today, which is simply gathering the iron content within the soil and making an ingot out of it.”

“Is that so? My apologies.”

At that, Rheinhart-sama joined in the conversation.

“Well then, now that you’ve confirmed that Ryoma-kun is the real thing, let’s continue with our conversation.

Just as you have seen just now, Ryouma possesses great knowledge and technique, and with it he created the ingot and devised the water-proof cloth.

However, if the knowledge that he is an alchemist were to get out, then he would be grouped together with the other alchemists. And even if we were to show proof of his ability, because of his age, people who will detest him, and people who will try to win him over will definitely come.

As such, I would like for Serge-san to purchase the things Ryouma-kun has brought with him at a fair price. Of course, without making it public that the seller was Ryouma-kun.”

“I understand. If it’s something like that, then there’s no problem at all.”

“Ryouma-kun, Serge is a trustworthy merchant. If there’s anything you want to sell, then it would be best for you to come here. Also, if there’s something you want to buy, then buying from here would be best.”

“I understand, thank you very much. Serge-san, please take care of me from now on.”

“Please take care of me as well. I will be eagerly waiting for Ryouma-sama’s visit.”

“Also, Ryouma-kun, you may take as much soil as you want from that abandoned mine. That is, whether it’s for the sake of feeding it to your slime, or making ingots to sell.”

“Is that alright? How about the profit of Rheinhart-san?”

“It’s fine. To begin with, we’ve already decided to treat it as an abandoned mine. Not having profits from it is a given since we, who do not have the ability to use Alchemy, can’t do anything with it. Even without anything changing, you’ll be able to sell ingots to Serge and make a little profit on the side. And since we already expect to make sufficient profits from the water-proof cloth you made for us, it’ll be fine for you to sell wholesale to Serge’s store or to a branch. Right, Serge?”

“Yes, there won’t be any problems regarding that. Also, if Ryouma-sama

could tell me where he lives, I will be able to inform a nearby branch to buy the goods while keeping quiet about Ryouma's case."

I'm grateful, but aren't these people being too nice?

When I mentioned that I lived in the forest, he was shocked. Since I'm still thinking of whether to go back to the forest or not, it was decided that I'll let him know where I'll be living after I've made up my mind.

For the meantime I'll be selling to this shop while I'm still in this town. If I decide to go back to the forest, then I'll end up selling the waterproof cloths to the branch in the Town of Gaunago.

Having been taken care of to this extent, I really don't know how to show my gratitude… For the meantime I'll just sell the ingots and the threads whole sale to this shop while I'm around. If I were to exhaust around two days'

worth of magic power, I'd be able to do something like that… Also, as an apology for doubting me, Serge-san gave me a large number of magic power recovery potions.

Well, at any rate, I'm happy that we were able to decide on a store where we would be able to sell safely. Serge-san also told me to come by whenever there was something that I needed. With this much, there's no such thing as being ripped off.

After that, we were sent off by the female servant, and then we went back to our lodging.

Chapter 23

I couldn’t figure out a western way of making the samurai sound samurai, so I just started attaching ‘de aru’ at the end of Raypin’s sentences.

Elia seems to have taken her contemplations yesterday seriously and is again in the abandoned mine, training.

Because of that Rheinbach-sama told me to take care of the monster subjugation request put up by the

Adventurer’s Guild today. I told them it would be fine if Elia also came with me, but Rheinbach-sama and the Madam were against it.

There’s a huge difference in battle experience and fighting abilities between me and Elia. So, because of that there’s a very high probability that she’ll only end up relying on me a lot.

Well it is true that if she were to ask me for help I wouldn’t really be able to refuse… In any case this is why I ended up going to the guild and being called into the guild master’s room.

“Ryouma, you came.”

“I came when I heard the Guild Master was looking for me. Is there something the matter?”

“The butler of the duke’s family came a while ago. And after putting up the request I wanted to confirm

something. Did you go to the abandoned mine yesterday?”

“Yes, I did.”

“Right, I want you to tell me what kind of magical beasts came out. The big request I mentioned before already came, but it’s really too dangerous without having a good grasp on the monsters beforehand. I also heard from the butler, but the more information the better. So I want to get whatever information I can get before starting the mission.”

“The ones I fought were the cave mantis, the cave bat, and the small mouse. From the looks of things the Ojousama also seemed to have defeated a slime. And then, there’s also the metal slime which the Ojousama found.”

“Alright, looks like this time I can allow members from G Rank up, to take this request. But… to think there was also a metal slime.”

“Yeah, that time we were moving separately but the Ojousama captured it and gave it to me as a present. Like that I was able to tame it.”

“Oh yeah, you liked to collect slimes, huh? From what I’ve heard you actually managed to get over 1000 slimes.”

“That’s right. Right now, I have 728 sticky slimes, 323 poison slimes, 211 acid slimes, 11 cleaner slimes, 3033

scavenger slimes, 2 healer slimes, 1 metal slime, 1 normal slime, which in total makes 4310 slimes."

“That’s too many.”

“The reason the scavenger slimes ended up this many was because of the previous case, you know? Because of that I ended up making them split so many times in a short period of time and they quickly surpassed 3000. On that point, slimes are able to live largely on water alone, so it’s not a problem.”

“So that’s why. By the way another request to clean the latrine pits came out so… mind taking that?”

“No problem. Still, that is quite fast. It hasn’t even been a few days since the last one.”

“Well the previous request took 5 months before it was accepted. So since there’s no telling when the next request to clean will be accepted, there are plenty of guys who are thinking, “Let’s start putting up the request now!” And they also threatened us by saying that if no one comes for a long time they’ll complain until they die or something. In the end the public office wasn’t able to come to an understanding with the slum and now they’re just ignoring them and not doing their job.”

“Alright, I got it. How many pits do I have to clean today?”

“All 30 pits. Can you do it?’

“Because of the previous case, the slime’s ability to deal with that kind of stuff has greatly increased. And so, if I were to use it for an entire day, I think I should somehow be able to do it…”

“Then I’ll leave everything to you. The townsmen are really annoying.”

“Got it. Ah, can I also take the monster subjugation request?”

“Yeah, there’s no limit on the number of people participating, so there

won’t be a problem. You can even process the documents as soon as you get home after the quest, today.”

“Alright, I understand. And then, regarding the monsters in the abandoned mine, can the corpses be sold?”

“Nope. Based on the information we have now, you can’t sell them. The reward for this request is simply for the subjugation of the monsters.”

“Then, if I were to pay up, will I be able to get the corpses?”

“Well to begin with, those are pretty much only garbage. Even if you buy it, what will you do with it?’

“I’ll feed it to my slimes of course. Even though they’re not really eating that much I want to make sure I have supplies while I can.”

“So that’s why. Then in that case leave the handling of the corpses to the guild. I’ll make it so that there’ll be an extra reward for people that bring the corpses back. To begin with, leaving the corpses there was never really a good idea since other monsters may just end up living there after scrounging for those, so I was already planning to have those gathered. Even if the bonus is dirt cheap, if there’s a bonus then they’ll end up wanting to do it.

Also, you’re the one paying for the bonus, alright?

“Of course. In the meantime, will 20 small gold coins be enough?”

“You don’t need 20. Even 10 is plenty.”

“Then I’ll leave you with 10 small gold coins. If that becomes insufficient, I’ll pay it afterwards.”

“Got it. However, are you able to bring that many with you? And also, it’s going to rot, you know?”

“It’s alright. I can use space magic and preserve it with ice. And even if it rots, there are slimes that like that, so it won’t be a waste.”

“Slimes are quite convenient, huh?”

“Yes. Very much.”

After talking with the Guild Master, I left the room and took the request we talked about a while ago from the receptionist.

“Thank you so much for taking this quest again. There really aren’t any people who wants to take this quest, you see?”

“Well, it’s because I have my slimes and magic which make this job

convenient for me, but as for others, there probably won't be anyone who'd want to do this job."

"Honestly we'd be better off, if they just took the odd jobs instead of pushing themselves and failing a job… Oh by the way, Ryouma-kun, because of the previous job you took your rank rose. From today on you're an F Rank."

"Is that so?"

"That's right. In order to go from G to F, you need to complete 20 missions of any kind. When you cleaned the latrine pits, there were 30 pits in total. Each pit counted as a mission, and so you were able to fulfill the conditions to go up to F Rank. In order to go from F to the next rank, E. You need to complete 40 missions of any kind, plus some kind of subjugation request. You went 10 jobs over the 20 jobs required to go from G to F, so I'll add that towards the completion of your Rank E. If you're able to finish the cleaning of all of the 30 latrine pits again today, you'll be able to clear all the conditions for Rank E aside for the subjugation request."

"Really? Thank you very much. Umm…"

"Oh, that's right. I haven't introduced myself have I? It's Meilin."

"Thank you very much, Meilin-san. Well then I'll be on my way."

I left the guild and then did my best to clean the latrine pits again today. Because of the King Scavenger Slime's

'Enlarge' and 'Overeat', I was able to finish all 30 latrine pits in one day. Although the skill level rose, the amount we had to deal with today were quite few…

I then went to report the completion of the request. After a little bit of time, they were able to confirm that I finished the job, and the request was completed.

"Alright, you're good to go. Take care of it again in the future, ok? And then… Ryouma-kun will also be taking the subjugation request for tomorrow, right?"

"Yes, please let me take it."

"Then in that case I'll take care of the papers…… OK. If you come over to the guild by 8 in the morning

tomorrow, there'll be a stagecoach that you can ride for free. If you miss that, you'll have to either borrow a horse or walk there, but regardless, if

you fail to get there by 11, then you'll have your pay reduced."

"I understand. Thank you very much."

After that, I went back to the lodging, prepared for tomorrow, and then went to sleep. It would be nice if a metal slime were to come… if I spot one, I'll tame it. Definitely.

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The Next Day.

Because of my appointment today, I was sent off by the four members of the Jamil Household and the guards. I then headed towards to the guild in order to be able to ride the stagecoach. When I got to the guild, there was a huge crowd of adventurers and many stagecoaches lined up.

"That's quite a crowd, huh?"

Seeing the stagecoaches, I wondered to myself whether to exercise by running while using the neutral magic

'Strengthening' since I still had some time, but a voice suddenly called out to me from afar.

"Hey! Ryouma!"

"Eh? Ah, Jeff-san!"

That voice was Jeff-san's. Looking carefully, I can see Raypin and Shale as well.

"Good morning, Jeff-san, Raypin-san, Shale-kun."

"Mornin'."

"Good morning, Ryouma-kun."

"Good morning –de aru. Ryouma took this quest too?"

"You guys took it as well?"

"It's 'cause the old man made us take this request. The request this time 'round can be taken even by those of the Rank G, but if a strong monster were to come out it will be a huge disaster. So just in case, we're participating too. Also, it's not just me and Raypin, Miya and Asagi are coming as well. They've already gone ahead though."

"Still, although there's been big requests like this before, there's quite a lot of people this time, huh?"

"That can't be helped -de aru. The beasts in the mine are something that

even Rank G adventurers can handle, and since this is a request given by the feudal lord, the reward for it is also suitable. Besides there's also the bonus from the corpses, when they're brought back to the guild. This is one of the few good opportunities to earn for adventurers of low rank –de aru. And even people who can't fight can get a reward just by gathering corpses. Like this there's almost no one who is unable to take part in this mission –de aru."

"Still, I wonder who's the guy paying for the bonus and buying the magical beasts. I took a look at the list of the magical beasts, and no matter how you look at it those aren't the kind of beasts that have any useful parts. These beasts are just small fries, you know?"

"Although it's good for us, it is quite concerning –de aru."

"Nah, actually, it's nothing special. It'll just be used for feed for the slave monsters."

"Ryouma-kun, do you know something?"

"It's because the one buying the corpses is me."

"So the one buying the corpses was Ryouma? If you're going to use the corpses as feeds for your slimes, then I can understand –de aru. Because… you do have a lot of slimes…"

"What do you normally do for their meal anyway?"

"Depending on what kind of slave monster, it could be quite expensive. And those things look like they'd eat quite a lot."

"Slimes don't really eat that much. They can live largely on water alone with a little bit of feed. This time around, I'm planning to use Ice and Space Magic to preserve the corpses, so I can give it to the slimes little by little. Also, I can do this since, if something were to start rotting, then I can simply have the slimes deal with that in one gulp."

"Well that's true. Aside from you, there's no one who can do this."

"Now that you mention it, where are those slimes –de aru?"

"Today the slimes are resting because I worked them really hard yesterday to clean the latrine pits. And also they'll just get mistaken by the surrounding people and end up getting killed."

"Well that's true –de aru."

Shale looked at me quizzically.

"Wait a moment, you cleaned the latrine pits again?"

“Well I was asked to by the guild master and also, today, completing this subjugation request will apparently allow me to become an E Rank.”

Hearing that, Jeff-san was shocked.

“That’s fast! It hasn’t even been a week since you registered, right?”

“I cleaned 30 pits for 3 days during the incident, and then yesterday I cleaned another 30. Every single pit, counts for a mission, so all in all that counts towards a total of 60 completed missions.”

“I see…”

While we wear chatting idly, another stagecoach came over. Well, since an empty carriage already came near us, we took the opportunity and rode together.

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Like this, we leisurely headed towards the abandoned mine while we chatted. When we got there, we were

immediately told to go report to the reception desk they prepared in front of the entrance of the abandoned mine.

We did as we were told and were then made to wait there. At 11, all the adventurers were gathered, and the guild master gave us some opening words.

“The people participating today number 264! In order to do this safely, you will all be going in as a 6 man party, one at a time! There will be no scrambling for prey! Those without a party, you were already grouped ahead of time! Come over here to confirm it! And lastly… earn as much as you can!”

Everyone raised their voice at those simple words. Then people gathered, and started entering the tunnel. I also went to check my group and my party ended up being Jeff-san, Miya-san, Wereanna-san, Mizelia-san, and Syria-san. Pretty much everyone was someone I knew. Was the guild master worried about me?

Looking around me, Wereanna-san led 5 other people as they walked towards me.

“Wereanna-san, please take care of me today. The others too, please take care of me.”

“Same here, Ryouma.”

“Take care of me, nya.”

“Take care of me ok?”

“Don’t worry, I’ll properly guide you as your senpai.”

“That’s probably impossible for Mizelia. We already met a while ago, but take care of me as well, ok?”

“Wai–, Jeff! Isn’t that rude to me!?”

“It’s cuz even though you’re good at fighting, you’re careless.”

“What do you mean by that!?”

Seeing the two argue, Wereanna-san couldn’t help but sigh.

“What are you guys doing…? Ryouma, let’s just leave these two. Just to confirm our fighting strength, what weapon do you have with you? And also, the magical beasts we have in this cave are the cave mantis and the small rat, have you ever fought with them?”

“I’ve fought with the cave mantis before. As for my weapon, I normally use my bow but, and I can also fight with my short sword as well as with my fists. And then, I can also fight with my magic.”

“I see… an all-rounder huh? Then in that case Ryouma will be in charge of attacking with magic since no one else can use magic aside from Ryouma in our group.”

“Well it’s not really like I can’t use it nya. It’s just that as beastmen we run out of magic power really quickly nya.

So please don’t rely that much on our magic.”

“As for me, my magic power is relatively high but I can’t use anything except for healing magic. Sorry.”

After her, Jeff-san began to say as he puffed his chest up.

“As for me and Mizelia, we suck at all magic except for the neutral magic harden and strengthen!”

“… You just changed the way you phrased it. In the end it’s all the same nya. Well, Ryouma, what attribute do you have nya?”

“All of them, but, I mainly use earth.”

“All Attribute Aptitude huh? That’s quite rare nya.”

“With that, we can fight in a lot more ways. Regarding earth, is the only attack magic you have Earth Needle?”

“Earth Needle and Rock Bullet. As for the other attributes, the ones I can

use inside the cave are the ice attribute, Ice arrow. And the electric attribute, Stun Arrow."

"Then in that case, that's more than enough. Alright, let's go!"

And so we started the mission. Only, because the monsters were so weak, we ended up proceeding quite fast.

"These things just can't fight back."

Mizelia-san couldn't help but shake her head.

"What's the point of asking small rats and slimes to fight back?"

"Besides if a monster that could fight Jeff were to come out it'll problematic nya. We'll be fine, but the others who are ranked G and F will be in danger nya."

"The reason we're here is to deal with a situation like that." Said Syria-san, as Wereanna-san continued to explain, "However, since we're already here we can't show a bad example to the lower ranks. It will be bad if they think that we're making money even though we're not doing anything. So let's just keep killing these guys like this."

These guys are amazing. They're all high rank, right? Oh, wait a moment, why is someone like me grouped up with guys like these?

Seeing me deep in thought, Wereanna-san spoke up, "Something the matter, Ryouma?"

"It's nothing. I was just wondering why a Rank F like me was grouped up with high ranked adventurers like you guys. I wonder if it's because the guild master was worried about me, thinking that it's probably better for me to be with people I know."

"There's no such thing. That old man is definitely a busybody, but when it comes to request he's quite strict. At times like these, he places priority on ability alone."

Syria-san added, "The guild master may have thought that it would be problematic if a monster that couldn't be defeated with anything else except with magic were to come out with only the five of us, so he had you come along with us. I think he must value Ryouma-kun's abilities quite a bit to make you come with us."

"Actually, Ryouma-kun, the pace we've been going at is actually quite fast, you know? For a normal Rank F

Adventurer, the most they would be able to do is to just keep up with us, you know?"

“At the start I thought that we’d have to slow down the pace once Ryouma started to get tired. But since you kept up with us calmly we just kept going like this.”

Said Mizelia-san and Wereanna-san as they tried to encourage me.

Really? I didn’t notice at all.

“Ryouma, your actual ability is definitely not at F.”

“What’s the strongest magical beast you’ve beaten so far?”

“The strongest I’ve fought isn’t a magical beast. It’s a beast that lives in the Forest of Gana, the black bear.”

Hearing that, the five made a face that said, “Knew it.”

“Ryouma-kun, a black bear isn’t something that a normal Rank F can beat nya. In order to safely hunt it, one needs to at least be Rank D and have a party. To beat it alone, one needs to be at Rank C, nya.”

“Is that so?”

Syria-san nodded,

“That’s right. If Ryouma-kun can beat a Black Bear alone, then Ryouma-kun definitely has the ability of at least a Rank C. Did you show that ability to the guild master?”

Now that she mentions, yeah he has.

“When I registered, the proctor of the practical test was the guild master.”

“That must have been it.”

“Yeah, without a doubt. From that time on, he must have been watching you.”

“That’s why you were grouped with us.” Said Mizelia-san as Jeff-san added, “Since you have ability, you don’t have to worry about something like rank. With time, you’ll eventually reach the same rank as us.”

“Oh, now that you mention it what are your ranks?”

“Oh yeah, I haven’t mentioned it, nya?”

“We’re all Rank B.”

Responded, Mizelia-san.

“It’s the rank at which an adventurer can finally call himself first class.”

“And also, the ones who came with us when we did the job before, were Shale, who is Rank D, Gordon, who is Rank B, and Asagi and Raypin who are both Rank A.”

We were talking like that as we walked when Wereanna-san suddenly focused her awareness on what’s ahead of us, and began sniffing while she searched for something.

“What’s wrong?”

“From the smell, there’s a colony of bats ahead, it’s not dangerous but because there’s too many of them we won’t be able to beat them all as they’ll end up running away.”

“How troublesome… nya”

“Are there any people over there?”

“I don’t smell any humans. Do you have some kind of plan?”

“Yes, I have a magic that’s convenient for this kind of situation.”

As I mentioned that, I explained the effect of my ‘Sound Bomb’ from yesterday.

Wereanna-san showed me a look of admiration, “Ho… you could actually do something like that?”

Syria-san also nodded, “That’s a magic I’ve never heard of before.”

Well yeah… it’s something I made by using the knowledge I got from back in Earth.

“That magic will only knock them out, right? Can you finish the cave bats off before they recover?”

“The number is really a bit much. If you knock them out, killing them off will be quite easy, but as for whether or not we can finish them off in time…”

“Then in that case, couldn’t we receive the help of the people behind us?”

As I said that, the other people also agreed.

Then, Wereanna-san realized something, “Wait, so you noticed too?”

“It’s because I’ve lived in the forest for 3 years. I’ve become quite sensitive to the presence of others.”

“Is that so? Then can you wait here for a bit?”

Actually, there was a group of six following us from quite a distance

behind for a while now. Since they weren't trying to attack us, we've left them alone until now. Also, hearing the conversation of the five with me, I mentioned that they were probably G or E Rank adventurers who were following us from behind to gather the corpses of the monsters to bring it back for money.

Although something like this isn't prohibited, it's not something to be praised either. It's an act that can be considered to be in the 'gray zone'. The monsters killed by someone normally belong to that person, but what they can't carry and things that don't have value are thrown away. Those kind of things being picked up isn't an issue. But because it might become a source of a problem in the future, there aren't a lot of people that do it without permission.

When we rested for a bit, the group came closer. Noticing that we had stopped moving, they were thrown into a panic and quickly stopped moving. At that, Wereanna-san called out in a loud voice.

"To the bastards that have been following us! You've already been found out! Show yourselves!"

Although the 6 were flustered, before long, they showed themselves. What appeared was a group of four humans and two beasts. Wereanna quickly began to question them.

"Why were you guys following us?"

"We were picking up the monsters that you threw away…"

"So you were just picking up the monsters we killed at your own convenience, huh? Well it's not like we actually want to lecture you about this."

At those words the 6 appeared to have been relieved as their expressions became brighter.

"We just want to know why you're doing this kind of thing."

When she said that, a young man replied in a panic.

"Y–Yes! Actually, we are still only ranks G and F so… we were having a bit… of a problem with money…"

"At the start we were still fine, but when we bought weapons and armors for ourselves we ran out of money…"

"And then as for me I failed a contract and ended up having to pay the fine and ran out of money…"

"We are also just barely getting by with our lodging fees and so we

wanted to find a way to cut down on our expenses, when this request came out. We thought, that if it was this request, then we would be able to get some money for our current lifestyle for a while. The magical beasts are weak so it's safe, as long as you join you get money, and if you bring monsters with you back you'll also get money. So we thought that we didn't have any way to get money aside from here!"

"And then after taking this request, when we got here we saw you guys. And…"

Jeff-san seeing the stagnant reply of the female human adventurer asked,"And then what?"

"And…"

As the girl failed to reply properly, a male adventurer continued for her.

"We saw you guys take with you that brat. We figured if you're taking with you into the tunnel a brat like that, then it'd be fine even if we took the corpses of the monsters you threw away. We thought you'd let us off with picking those up since your taking with you a brat that couldn't be anything else except for a hindrance."

At that young man's unpleasant words, the other 5 gave off an unpleasant look. Well I mean yeah, even as a joke I am still a member of this group. You normally wouldn't say that a member of a group is useless. But as for whether it was because they also thought what he thought, or because they were reflecting on the fact that they gave their approval and started acting on that thought, not a single one of them tried to rebut what the young man had said.

To that young man over there. You said it really arrogantly, but you know… the monsters I fell with my own magic were also included amongst the corpses you've picked up, you know?

I'm a little irritated, but it can't be helped even if I were to mind it.

"You guys should know your…"

Wereanna-san who wasn't happy about that raised her voice, but I stopped her.

"Its fine, Wereanna-san."

"Ryouma, it's better to tell it straight to a person like this, you know?"

"This kind of thinking isn't something that can be changed by talking. It really can't be helped that I look weak on the outside."

I could also fix them up with brute force, but I'm not particularly good at

holding back so… this guys will probably end up really hurt if I did that…

"… Got it. But… You guys! If you're going to do something like that, at least say something! Just doing

something like that on you convenience makes you look like a bunch of thieves! Don't do that!"

"I'm sorry!!"

The 6 people apologized in a big voice. Well, they apologized to everyone aside from me. As expected the other five aren't exactly reflecting, huh?

After apologizing, the 6 people tried to give us the monster corpses they had collected and then go home, but Syria-san and Mizelia-san stopped them.

"Wait! Although we told you it was wrong to gather the corpses without permission, we don't think there's anything wrong with the act itself."

"If you have problems with money, then its fine. Take it."

Hearing that, the six's expression immediately brightened up. They showed their gratitude to everyone else except for me, and said their thanks. Wereanna-san wasn't happy, but in the end we continued as we planned and Miya-san began to recommend the others to help us.

"Actually, there's another reason why we called you guys, nya. There's a colony of bats up ahead, but there's too many so it'll take time before we're able to kill them all, nya. So, won't you guys also help out? It'll be fine even if you take all the corpses back with you, nya."

The six agreed as if it was given. And then, while I confirmed that there were no people around with the magic

'search', Miya-san gave a simple explanation.

"First, Ryouma is going to hit them with magic, and then afterwards were going to rush in, nya."

"That brat will?"

"Won't that kid's magic just make the enemy put up their guard?"

Yep, as expected they aren't reflecting at all.

"If you have any complaints then go home!" roared Wereanna-san.

At that they withdrew, but after getting away a bit, they started whispering things like, "It's the kid's guard, huh?"

or “I don’t like this” or “It’s for the sake of money so it can’t be helped”. I know, because they can be heard perfectly clear.

Even then though, I ignored them and continued with my preparation. After confirming that there aren’t any people over there, I put up a sound-proof barrier, and finished my preparation.

“I’m ready.”

“Alright, do it Ryouma. And you guys too, get going!”

“I’m going! ‘Sound Bomb’!”

As I invocated the magic, a sound exploded from within the tunnels. However, because of the barrier, we didn’t hear a single sound. So the 6 people from a while ago thought I failed.

“Nothing is happening though?”

“As expected it failed.”

“This is why brats are useless.”

These guys are really shameless. They already completely forgot about what happened a while ago, huh?

“It’s a success. It just happens to be a Wind Attribute Magic, so you guys can’t see it.”

Saying that, I went with Wereanna-san and the rest deep inside. At that, the 6 people made a bunch of excuses while they followed.

However, when they got inside they couldn’t help but look at the floor, dumbfounded. What lay on the floor was a great number of cave bats.

“These have all only been knocked out, so please divide the labor amongst yourselves and quickly dispose of them all.”

As I said that I immediately began. After we finally finished killing off all the cave bats, we left the six members alone in the deepest part of the cave and went out.

As we went outside, Wereanna-san said this,“Ryouma, is it really ok not to have said anything?”

“Yeah, I already showed off my ability with a shot of my magic. If they can’t understand it even with that, then that’s all there is to them.”

“Well that’s also probably true but…”

Jeff-san also couldn’t help but say, “Having been slandered like that, if

you don’t beat them up a bit and show off your strength, you’re going to be made light of, you know?”

“I also thought of beating them up… but I’m quite bad at holding back. I can’t do anything else except protecting myself, running away, or killing. If I were to deal with those six, even if I hold back, they’ll still end up getting hurt too much.”

I didn’t really get to fight a lot with normal people back in my previous world… and ever since I got here the only people I’ve had disagreements with are the bandits.

In elementary, junior high, and high school, if you were to resist someone’s bullying half-baked, then it will just end up getting worse… If I fought seriously I could have easily beaten them up but I went easy on them… Of course when my life is in danger I’ll resist, but even though I held back a lot, after that everyone started looking at me with eyes as if they were looking at a monster.

While I was thinking that Jeff-san said, “You don’t have to mind something like that, you know?”

“They also seem like they don’t have any money, so if I beat them up right now, they’ll end up unable to work and that’ll make me feel a bit bad, you know? Right now let’s just say that it’s because they’re desperate to make a living that they’re being a bit rebellious.”

“Rebellious… is that something that someone younger should say? They should be around 15 years old, you

know?”

“Ryouma-kun are you really 11 years old?”

“Well, whatever… if that’s what Ryouma-kun has decided then just leave it be, nya. It will be fine as long as you raise your rank quickly, nya.”

Although it’s true that I’m bad at holding back, it’s also because I’m actually an uncle at heart, even though I may look like a kid that is… Anyway, I don’t really feel like scolding them over a minor matter, much less beat them up. I really can’t do something so childish.

Besides everyone had already scolded them. I’ve also shown them my abilities with my magic. Aside from this, all that’s left is to let them reflect on their own.

While we were talking about that, since it’s already time for us to start preparing our meals, we all went back to the entrance of the mine.

Chapter 24

Break Time.

Ryouma was eating by himself in a corner where the adventurers were gathered after he received his portion of lunch.

As for Jeff-san and the others, they went with the other adventurers to exchange information while eating, but since Ryouma didn't know what to talk about with other adventurers, he was by himself.

"Even though I can talk normally now, it's not like my fear of strangers has been cured… oh yeah, now that I think about it I did keep my conversation with other people to a minimum… it was normal for me to wait until someone talked to me…"

As Ryouma dropped his head to his own cowardice, a group of men came over and spoke to him.

"Hey."

"Eh? Ah, yes, is something the matter?"

Although Ryouma felt the men come close to him, he didn't expect them to actually talk to him, so his response ended up being late.

"You're wearing a pretty nice armor, huh?"

"My armor? Well, yeah, it was quite expensive."

"Wow, bastards with money really have it nice."

"Won't you give some of that to us?"

At the start, Ryouma responded normally. But with those two comments, Ryouma finally realized that these adventurers were up to no good.

Adventurers would normally make a party of up to six and move as such. In the instance where they have to fight a lot of monsters or a particularly powerful prey, then they would gather more members and become an even bigger group. That kind of group normally disperses as soon as the job is over, but there are some rare instances where adventurers who worked in the same town would work together for a long time.

These people belong to that kind of group. The members of the adventurer group who calls themselves, The Fang of Orbtem, are famous

in the Town of Gimuru. Not because they're strong, but because of their bad deeds.

When they find beginner adventurers and lower level adventurers with plenty of money, they do things like what they're doing right now, and try to extort money and equipment. There are plenty of beginner adventurers who give up their money after being threatened because of the difference in numbers. And even if they were to fight back, because there's simply too many, they still end up being stolen from.

Right now, the prey of this group is the lonely adventurer who has no friends beside him, eating food by himself.

When they saw this weak looking adventurer, well they just couldn't help themselves. And so, they planned to do their usual stuff, but…

"Sigh… extortion… I thought there were people who finally came to talk to me, but it turned out to be

extortion…" Muttered Ryouma as he sighed disappointedly.

For Ryouma, being caught up with people like this was an everyday occurrence for him in his student days.

Because of that, he didn't feel anything anymore in situations like this.

Seeing the Ryouma who was acting boldly and sighing, the six faltered a bit. That's because it's normal for people to resist. Well, at the very least that's how it was for the adventurers they've extorted from until now.

"That's cruel, man. This isn't extortion, we're just…"

"You said you wanted money right? I won't give you any, you know? Please work honestly and make money for yourselves."

Ryouma has always been entangled with people like this during his school days. But amongst those countless times he was being harassed, not once did he give money to them.

There were many who would give their money and live peacefully, but Ryouma didn't give in to extortion. He could have beaten them up, but because he was forbidden by his father to fight, he lived his days irritating the bullies and being hit.

Because of his bad habit from those days, Ryouma also acted rude in response to the six people. And as one would expect, they were enraged and started trying to threaten Ryouma. The voices of the six people reached even the ears of the surrounding adventurers, catching their attention.

“You have some guts, don’t ya…? Don’t fuck with me you shitty brat!! You think I don’t know? The only job you’ve taken till now is a measly cleaning job! A fucker like you who doesn’t know how to fight only needs to do what he’s told!”

“Don’t fucking get cocky just cuz you bought some nice armor!! You’re just a fucker who can’t do anything but loiter around in a weird outfit!”

“I’m telling you to just hand over the fucking cash! You want to make this difficult?”

“You went against us, so leave your armor and your weapons!”

“It’s better than getting hurt ya know?”

“What, can’t you hear me!?”

“I am able to hear you just fine even without you shouting. Or are you perhaps unable to hear? In any case, I will not be handing any money to you people. Nor will I hand my weapons and armor.”

As he said that, he went back to eating his meal. Seeing that, the six people took out their swords. As expected, Ryouma was alarmed and he steeled himself for battle.

Ryouma generally didn’t fight back in his previous life, but there were exceptions. That exception being when his life was in danger. In cases like that, Ryouma fought back. As for why he would only fight when his life was in danger, that’s because he was bad at holding back.

Even if he was forbidden by his father to fight, he was still given permission to defend himself. Only, the difference between his strength and his opponents were too much. So if Ryouma were to try to fight back, it would only end up as excessive self-defense. The techniques Ryouma had learned from his father were meant to efficiently destroy one’s opponents. And those techniques were ingrained into him by his father’s strict training.

When he fought back during his school days, even the person who suffered light injuries had the hand he was holding a weapon with broken. That was the best Ryouma could do to hold back in his student days.

This also means that in situations where Ryouma’s life isn’t in danger, he won’t fight back.

But this time, his opponents tried to take out their swords. If he were to be hit by those swords, his life would be in danger. Ryouma is the kind of man who wouldn’t hesitate in a situation where his life was in danger.

While Ryouma had his guard up, and as the men tried to take out their swords, someone called out to them.

“What are you guys doing!!?”

That voice came from the man standing in the middle of the onlookers surrounding them from a distance.

The guild master of the Adventurer’s Guild, Wogan. Wogan glared at the six guys as he walked over to Ryouma.

“You guys, I can still let you off if you’re only arguing, but I won’t approve of you taking your swords out.”

“Why is the guild master…?”

“Withdraw!”

“Even if it’s break time, we’re still in the middle of a job. So stop fighting with your fellow adventurers!”

“Fight? There’s nothin’ like that. We’re just teachin’ this brat a lesson.”

“Cuz this kid don’t have a single inkling of respect towards his senpai adventurer.”

As the two men brazenly said that it was education, Ryouma said this while he was eating.

“You can’t call extorting money, then getting mad when refused and trying to threaten me to get my armor and weapon, ‘education’, you know?”

At those words, four of the men were startled and two of them stared at Ryouma with resentful eyes. Naturally, having something like that said while the guild master was around was bad.

Of course, Wogan responded to those words,

“Certainly, that isn’t education. What’s the meaning of this?”

“Hey, hey. It’d be problematic if you misunderstood us… what we were trying to do was for you…”

“Exactly how is trying to take my money, armor, and weapons, for my sake?”

“You fucker! Stop trying to slander us!!”

“I’ll fucking kill you bitch!”

The previously calm four, started to shout angrily at the few calm words Ryouma spoke. And then, “Duel me!”

Ryouma thought he had heard wrong at those sudden words and asked, “What did you say?”

“I said to duel me you brat!”

“Why?”

“Because you fucking falsely accused us is why!!”

“If you lose you have to give us your money, armor, and weapons!”

“Consider it payment for the class, brat. Because we’ll be teachin you exactly how cruel adventurers are.”

Ryouma opened his eyes, shocked. And then after his shocked had lessened, he said what he thought, “This is the first time I’ve seen someone ask for a duel.”

Those words that didn’t carry a hint of tension caused the six to become irritated.

“Who cares about something like that!?”

“Are you going to accept?! Accept or not, which is it!?”

“There’s no way I would accept something like that, right? Trying to justify your crimes is meaningless, you know?”

“You scared, you brat?”

“This fucking coward!”

“You’re pathetic!!”

This time, the six started to shower Ryouma with jeers.

Although Wogan tried to stop that, he couldn’t completely stop it. As Ryouma was gloomily thinking of that, he suddenly thought, ‘Now that I think about it, Jeff-san said that if I don’t fight them and show my strength, that I’ll be looked down on.’

Having remembered the words he was told this morning, Ryouma thought a little. Why won’t I fight them? Well that’s because I’m bad at holding back. It’ll just end up as excessive self-defense.

But this world is different. If one is attacked, as long as it’s for self-defense, then it’s legal even if you kill. This is a world where the fracture Ryouma caused in his school days when he held back wasn’t even worth mentioning.

This is a world where you can’t avoid fighting if you want to protect your

daily life and your rights.

And also, the opponents right now have a good build, unlike the kids he faced back then. Even if they're a bunch of thugs, they are adults that have trained how to fight. What's more, is that compared to his school days, Ryouma can hold back better now. As he was thinking that, he thought again, 'Oh yeah, I was pretty unsatisfied back in my previous life, huh?'

Although Ryouma had endured the extortion and bullying, it's not like he didn't feel anything. It hurt when he got hit, and when he was spoken ill of, it also hurt. So he also thought of wanting to let loose. But by muttering to himself about excessive self-defense, he was somehow barely able to keep that urge. In other words, he had always wanted to beat those guys up.

Having noticed that, Ryouma heard the jeers of the other men again.

"Coward!!"

"Don't run, and accept it!"

"A scared adventurer that can't accept should just retire!!"

At those words, Ryouma said, "I understand, I'll accept it."

The moment he said that, the jeers stopped. And the onlookers watching all looked at Ryouma.

However, Wogan, wanting to confirm Ryouma's intentions, asked with a serious face, "Ryouma, you plan to

fight?"

"Yeah, it's no use even if I kept doing this."

Like this, Ryouma accepted the duel of the six members of the adventurer group, The Fang of Orbtem.

Chapter 26

After declaring that he'll be accepting the duel, Ryouma made a rod with his short sword by cutting off and shaving a moderately sized branch of a nearby tree. The adventurers surrounding him, gave a sidelong glance as they whispered amongst themselves.

These kinds of squabbles are fairly common amongst the adventurers. Well, for it to reach to the point where it turns into a duel is pretty rare, but fist fights do happen a lot. So with that in mind the adventurers basically didn't try to stop the fight.

Because adventurers put their lives on the line for their job, the ability to be able to judge the strength of their opponent in comparison to theirs is very important. Even if one were to end up badly hurt after picking a fight with someone stronger, the one at fault is the person who couldn't properly gauge his opponent's strength. This is true even if it's not a quarrel between two adventurers and is a job. If you take a request that you can't handle, if you fail, then you'll lose your life.

Normal people would fail that once or twice, after which they'd understand their limits. But even then, there have been hardly any deaths when it comes to arguments between adventurers. Even if an adventurer was known for his bad deeds, he would still remember the days when he too was inexperienced and will keep himself from going overboard.

That's why, other adventurers won't do anything else aside from spectating. Unless the members of the Fang of Orbtem really try to kill Ryouma, or injure him in such a way that it will leave irreversible injuries, they won't do anything.

These people are the same, believing that Ryouma is a novice that picked a fight with an opponent he cannot win against, and plan to leave them alone for it to serve as a lesson for him, going in only to help when his life is in danger.

However, not all the adventurers are just there to watch over them. There are also people that are cheering. For example, the group of Wereanna who had just finished eating and had come back. Since they can't fight, they decided to at least throw Ryouma words of encouragement.

After that, Wereanna asked Ryouma, "Ryouma, why did you accept the duel when you didn't even say anything to the six in the cave?"

“Those guys were also annoying but these guys are wearing armor so it won’t end that badly for them. I wanted to settle it by talking, but that doesn’t seem to possible right now… and also…”

“And also?”

“Actually, there’s also that urge to let loose, you know? I believe I’ve talked about this a little while ago with you guys, but I haven’t actually fought a lot. I’ve always remained defenseless except for situations where I’ve decided that my life is in danger.

And even if I were to resist, it would be as self-defense. Without killing my opponent and dedicating myself to running away, and no matter what fighting only when it’s not possible to run away. That is my way of living.

Because I had to do that, that’s why. But, right now is different.

I thought I’d try to choose how to live my own life. So I thought that I’d like to use the skills I’ve trained in my life, and resist unreasonably for once. That’s why those kind of guys are really convenient. Not only are they wearing armor, they have also been trained. If it’s like that then they won’t end up too hurt.”

“Ryouma-kun…”

“Ryouma. I can’t stop you guys, but be careful.”

“We’re ready!”

Having talked up to that point, the place where they were going to duel was finally prepared, and so they called Ryouma. Ryouma took the rod he made out of a tree, and went to duel. Seeing that, the six members of the Fang of Orbtem and the surrounding adventurers couldn’t help but laugh.

“Hey, hey, hey, what is that piece of wood?”

“How funny, it’s perfect for an F rank!”

“I’m just holding my weapon, isn’t it fine?”

As he said that, the adventurers of the Fang of Orbtem laughed even harder.

“Hey brat! Are you seriously thinking of picking a fight with us with that?”

“That’s right. I’m not good at holding back, if I use a weapon with a blade attached I might accidentally kill you.”

At those words, the surrounding voices quieted down, and the faces of the adventurers of the Fang of Orbtem flushed deep red.

“You looking down on us bitch?”

“I am not looking down on you. I have taken into consideration your ability as well as mine, and have decided that this is for the best.”

“You fucking brat! I’m gonna fuckin’ kill you!!”

At those words the other adventurers also raised their voices. Right after that, Wogan, who took the role of the referee, gave the signal to start, and two of the men came rushing at Ryouma.

Ryouma quickly swung the rod he was holding up, hitting the pommel of the sword the man swung down with his right hand and repelling it. He then took a half step and hit the solar plexus of the man with the opposite side of the rod.

As if he was flowing, he kept moving and swept the rod to his left, hitting the grip of the man to his left.

Returning the rod, he hit the wrist, and with the kote, a gauntlet used in kendo, he slapped down the sword, and thrust the man’s throat.

Having lost the grip on their sword, and receiving a blow to the pit of their stomach and to their throat, the two men gave a painful moan as they backed off. At that opening, Ryouma rushed in, and quickly hit the chin of the two with his rod, giving the two a cerebral concussion and knocking them out. As the sound of the swords hitting the ground echoed, the two men fell to the ground.

The onlookers believed that Ryouma didn’t have the ability to win against the six people in front of him. And even if he had fought only one, he still wouldn’t be able to win, in the end the six would have just made a sport of him. But seeing the scene unfolding right before them, they couldn’t help but tremble as they were left speechless.

The 6 people before Ryouma were the same. Failing to understand the sight of two men falling into the ground, the four remaining members completely forgot to move.

“Hey! The four over there, you coming?”

“Che!”

At those words, one of the men clicked his tongue, wielded his axe and jumped at Ryouma.

The axe came falling down at Ryouma’s head. Seeing that, he spun his body, and as he did so he hit the side of the axe with the rod, moving its trajectory, and allowing him to dodge. Continuing that, he moved the rod

that had just hit the side of the axe and thrust it into the man's throat. As he took control of his spinning body, he turned the rod and used the tip that had just plunged into the man's throat to hit the chin. Doing so he sent another man into a cerebral concussion, putting the number of men down at three.

When the three remaining men saw that, one of them put his sword back into the scabbard and walked out. What was he planning? Is he giving up? No. The man that has now become unarmed, plans to take Ryouma's rod. Once he has taken control of Ryouma's rod, the two behind him will make their move and attack with their spear and knife.

The man succeeded at grabbing Ryouma's rod. At that moment he believed that Ryouma has now been pushed

into a corner.

"Ha!!"

However, in the next instant, Ryouma poured out his fighting spirit as he thrust his rod into the man while the man was still holding it. As the man was thrust away, he let go of Ryouma's rod, and came crashing at the two men behind him.

Because of that the man ended up receiving the knife of the man behind him, and the man that had a spear had to dodge the man, causing him to stagger and show a huge opening. Ryouma did not miss that opening. He quickly took his rod, and hit the man's head to knock him out.

When the man with a knife saw that his comrade that held a spear has been knocked out, and the unarmed man was beside him squatting as he held his stomach, he clearly became panicked. To such a man, Ryouma leisurely walked closer.

They all thought that they had the advantage, everyone did. However when the battle had begun, Ryouma one-sidedly trashed the other five. Unable to come to grips with the reality before him, the man couldn't accept their loss.

The man frantically held his knife and rushed at Ryouma, but such a thing wouldn't work. Ryouma quickly

swung his rod diagonally from his right below going up to the left, and knocking down the knife. Continuing that, he swept against the man's leg with the rod, hit the head when the man fell, and thrust at the throat.

"Uwaaaaaaaa!!!! Aga!"

These men kept spitting insults at Ryouma, yet this men's abilities were

no better than an amateur's. These guys were the kind that would pick on people weaker than them or around their level, and would only overpower them by their number.

Since from the start these men didn't have any guts to fight people stronger than them. When they see that there's a difference in power, they will immediately withdraw, and without any hesitation surrender like this.

"I, I give up! I'm surrendering!"

"Winner! Ryouma Takebayashi!"

"Wahoooooo!"

At Wogan's declaration, the surrounding onlookers all cheered for Ryouma. The eyes and the comments that were around when they thought Ryouma was someone who didn't know his own limits had all disappeared, and now

the crowd unanimously admired Ryouma.

A man came out from the ring of onlookers with a double-edged axe on his back. As he moved closer to Ryouma, the crowd grew quiet.

"Not bad. For a brat. I'm the leader of the Fang of Orbtem, Sacchi. What do you think? How 'bout joining us?"

"I refuse."

It was a sudden invitation, but Ryouma gave a prompt reply.

"You're refusing my invitation?"

"There's no way I'd want to suddenly become the comrade of a bunch of guys who were looking down on me just a while ago."

"Well, that's true. But you see… we need to do something about the fact that you sullied our name."

"Wait!"

At Sacchi's words, Wogan put himself in between the two.

"The one who proposed this duel was your men. It's unreasonable to say that just because you lost."

"Unreasonable? That kind of thing doesn't matter. The problem is that what belongs to me just lost to this brat.

You also understand, right? Just how important this thing called 'face' in this job is. An adventurer with good reputation will find a lot of jobs, and

a poor reputation will find few. And for an adventurer, the worst kind of rumor, is the rumor of being weak. A weak adventurer can't do jobs, that's what it means to be an adventurer. To an adventurer like that, jobs won't come."

As he said that, Sacchi looked at the six men on the ground and then declared, "From now on you bastards aren't allowed to use the name, Fang of Orbtem! You're fired!"

"W–wait Sacchi-san, please wait!"

"Shut up!! To think you would actually, in front of all people, lose to this brat! I don't need weak bitches like you in my team! Right now I really want to kill you fuckers! If you're going to surrender then you might as well die!"

At those words, Ryouma remembered something from the past. Sacchi's words right now were similar to the

behavior of an authority in the company that his deceased mother had insulted. Realizing that, an unspeakable displeasure crawled through Ryouma's body. It's not like Sacchi hasn't done anything to Ryouma. If I must say it then right now Sacchi is trying to find fault with Ryouma. But, that's just it. Between the two of them, that's all there is.

However, right now, Ryouma has the urge to thoroughly tear Sacchi apart. The reason for that is the repugnance and hate that he had continuously piled up for the authorities and the company employees in his past life that he had forgotten since coming here. But of course, Sacchi had nothing to do with that. Understanding that, Ryouma kept his urge. But that was extremely unpleasant.

Furthermore, Ryouma is as calm as he can understand the difference in ability between them. However, what that means is that even if Sacchi were to attack with all the members of the Fang of Orbtem, he would deal with them without question. And that prediction was correct.

Although the members of the Fang of Orbtem are D Rank and up, that is not because of their own individual strengths but because of their number and the quality of their equipment. The only ones that actually have ability are Sacchi and several of the cornerstones of the Fang of Orbtem. Moreover those people are Rank C. If Ryouma were to seriously go at it, he would be able to deal with them easily. To put it bluntly, there isn't a single factor for Ryouma's defeat.

However, strangely enough, it was that calm judgement that became one of the factors that loosened Ryouma's bound of reason. If the one here right now was someone that he absolutely could not win against, then he

would have made a decision to withdraw. Even if it was only dangerous and he could actually win, he would still make the decision to put up his guard and try to avoid fighting.

But, Ryouma can win. Easily too. Because of that all thoughts of running away ceased. Right now, just keeping himself from picking a fight with this man has already pushed his reason to its brink.

And in that brink, Sacchi's words reached him and… it broke his last sense of reason.

"If you just hand that brat over to us we can settle everything peacefully. It's better even for that brat's sake, right? I heard it you know? That brat is being raised by some noble. From now on he's going to be kept until he dies, and if the nobles get tired of him they'll just throw him away. If he does something poorly, won't they just throw him away? Rather than being treated like a tool by some noble, it's better for him to go with us and live more freely–"

"Shut up."

While Sacchi was speaking loudly, all of the sudden Ryouma cut him off with a voice that carried a heavy aura of intimidation. Hearing that all of the sudden, everything quietened down.

"Aren't you saying something really convenient for you? What do you know about those people?"

"What? You mad that I'm making fun of your owner?"

"Ahh, it's getting to my head. The one who treats people like tools is you isn't it?"

Ryouma's eyes were already clearly enraged. Because of that he spoke loosely to Sacchi as his body gave of an unusual pressure. Sacchi, finding fault in that, yelled at Ryouma.

"You arrogant brat… the only thing a bitch like you needs to do is obey me! To begin with, what's up with that way of talking you bitch? I'm the leader of the Fang of Orbtem, a C Rank adventurer, Sacchi! A brat like you shouldn't be talking like you're looking down on me!! A brat like you who is always talking politely shouldn't suddenly talk like that! Talking like that doesn't make you scary! Don't think you can scare me with something like that!!"

(TL Note: From here on out. Ryouma stops using polite speech (keigo) and also uses 俺 to refer to himself instead of 私 . His manner of speaking is far less polite here, enough to be considered rude depending on who he's talking to. But still not as boorish as Sacchi or the others.) Being told

that, Ryouma suddenly remembered.

“Always? … Ahh, you mean the way I normally talk? I’m bad at getting along with people, so I got used to talking like that. Since I got used to it too much, whenever I try to talk normally, I just end up using it. Really, I’m just talking politely, but the truth is when I’m talking inside my head this is how it always comes out.”

“Then don’t you think you should respect me? Listen up brat, you may be stronger than the trash over there, but you better not think that it’s a good idea to talk like that to me!”

“I just thought that there isn’t any value in being polite to you, that’s all.”

At those words a vein popped out over his eyebrow. Looking at this exchange, it can be seen that Ryouma is intentionally provoking, but Ryouma actually doesn’t have any ill will. He is actually just talking of boring things while he’s pissed.

However, everyone was confused at Ryouma’s sudden changed, and were silently watching.

Within that confused group, the one who was most alarmed was Wogan. If I don’t stop them, Sacchi will be in danger.

Normally, the one who you’d be worrying about is Ryouma, but Wogan understands how much more powerful

Ryouma is over Sacchi even without his bow. And so he desperately tried to put a stop to the fight, but…

“Ke! Don’t try to be cheeky with me you shitty brat, it’d be better if you just shut up and join us. If you refuse, then pay the debt! Which is it? Huh, brat!?”

“No matter how many times you say it, I won’t join you. If it’s a duel, then I’ll accept whatever you want.”

With this, the two has already clearly shown their intentions to duel. In this world, once two people have shown their intentions to duel, no one is allowed to interfere.

The only way to stop the duel is for the two people involved to reconciliate, to come to an understanding or to give money causing the person who receives it to have no choice but consent. However in this case, neither is willing to withdraw. And so the duel occurring is now a given.

“Good guts… drink, it’s the last alcohol you’ll get to taste before you die.

It’s some good stuff, you know.”

Saying that, Sacchi threw the wine bottle from his waist to Ryouma.

“Unfortunately, I am still only 11. You need to be 12 to drink, right?”

“That’s why you’re a brat! That’s something that you should be drinking! Don’t you have common sense!?”

Having said that, Sacchi clearly took Ryouma to have been making a fool of him. However, Ryouma refusing this wine is not because of the law. The drinking age may be 12, but the reason greatly differs from Japan. The reason in this world is simply because since one is young, one will easily be able to get drunk.

Depending on the place, because of some reason there are some situations where it can be more dangerous to drink water than alcohol. There are also no age restrictions.

Above all, according to Sebasu-san, Ryouma had received the protection of the God of Wine, Tekun. People who have received the God of Wine’s protection, are unable to get hangovers or get drunk and so it is said that they are not affected by the age restrictions on alcohol.

Then, why did you Ryouma refuse the wine?

Actually that wine has poison in it. A paralyzing poison has been mixed in with that wine, and anyone who drinks it will be unable to move properly. Sacchi handing it over as one’s ‘last drink’ is something that he always does against opponents he can’t afford to be careless against. But of course, doing something like this is foul play.

In the instance where one becomes poisoned after receiving an attack from a magic weapon enchanted by poison magic, the act of using poison can still be excused because that is something that occurred because of the difference in weapons. However, secretly poisoning your opponent like what Sacchi does is unacceptable. If it were to be found out, on top of instantly being considered the loser, he will also be disdained by the people around him.

And so, people who actually try to poison their opponents like this are extremely rare. Even if one’s prospects for winning is one in a million, if one were to be found out, on top of losing, that person will be punished and be ostracized by everyone around him. The end result of that possibility is far worse than just losing, so no one does it.

Because everyone understands this, there are plenty of people who would drink the wine unassumingly, believing that there is no way that it could be poisoned. It’s actually quite miraculous that until now a young man

like Sacchi who gets a lot of attention, is confident and hot-blooded has not been caught red-handed yet.

Of course Ryouma didn't trust Sacchi at all, so he stealthily used 'Identify' to confirm whether there's poison or not. Realizing that the only thing mixed in was a paralyzing poison, Ryouma drank it. Why? Because Ryouma who possessed the skill, 'Poison Resistance', couldn't possibly be affected by something on this level. So he drank it till the last the drop and was going to show proof that he drank it.

"…Don't get mad at being taught some common sense."

As Sacchi said that he looked at Ryouma who had just drank the wine, and laughed.

"Isn't it great to drink some good wine before dying?"

"I don't really think it's that good."

"Che! What an annoying brat! That was high class stuff! I just wanted to let you enjoy your last moments, and yet you make such rude remarks…"

"You're pretty noisy for someone who just gave it on his own accord. I'll give you this wine, so quiet down."

Said Ryouma as he threw the wine he had bought before as offering to the god of wine, The Tear of Keromi.

"Why do you have alcohol with you? I thought you didn't drink because you're still a brat."

"I bought it as offering to the god of wine. After offering it, I didn't know what to do with it, so I just left it in my Item Box. Also it seems to be some high class stuff too so if I give this to you we'll be even."

"Oh, what's this called?"

"I believe it's called 'The Tear of Keromi'."

At those words all the wine lovers in the area looked at the bottle Ryouma had thrown over to Sacchi. Sacchi, himself, also couldn't help but look.

It's true that the wine that Sacchi had given Ryouma was high class, but compared to the Tear of Keromi, it isn't even worth mentioning. There are many who actually resell this wine, not just because of its taste, but also because of the small amount produced in a year. It's a super high class wine that if resold will not go for less than 100 small gold coins. Having been tossed something like that, it can't be helped that Sacchi actually forgot what they were talking about.

“Ah, ah, I’ll let you go with this.”

“If you’re going to drink then drink. Let’s start quickly and end quickly.”

As Ryouma said that, Sacchi quickly handed the Tear of Keromi to his subordinate.

“Hey brat! You ready?”

“Yeah, whenever you want. Are you coming alone?”

Ryouma’s responses up till now have been tinged with displeasure because the duke’s family was insulted, but those words he had spoken just now didn’t have a trace of anger and was just an honest question.

“What?”

“Nah, if you’re not going to be complaining after you lose then it’s fine. But if you’re going to be complaining afterwards, then you might as well bring the entire Fang of Orbtem with you now. Oh and by complain I don’t just mean you, but also your subordinates.”

Or so Ryouma said with a really bored tone. Hearing that Sacchi and the members of the Fang of Orbtem was enraged.

“You’ve fucking said it brat!! Hey, fuckers! Get your weapons ready and get your asses over here!”

“We don’t have any choice left Sacchi-san!”

“Fucking looking down on us!”

“I’ll kill you, you brat!”

“Even if you cry we’re not gonna hold back!”

33 armed men went out before Ryouma as they showered him with their jeers.

“Look! You still feel like taking on all of this at once!? If you apologize now I can still let you off! Or are you gonna call your friends? Well, that’s if you have friends, that is!”

Without getting particularly worked up, Ryouma sluggishly replied, “I have slave monsters, but I’ll be fine alone.”

At Ryouma’s words, Sacchi who had become so mad that he had forgotten his goal yelled, “If you have, then call them! There’s no point in winning against a lone brat!!”

What is he saying after all this time? Even if it were one on one, for a

grown man who is an adventurer and is also equipped with a magic weapon to go up against a kid with nothing but a stick, it would still be the same, no?

“You just won’t stop complaining, huh? Fine, I’ll call them over, just wait for a bit.”

As Ryouma said that, he left the area for a bit.

Chapter 27

TL Note: Raypin is the one that keeps saying –de aru and is not a samurai. Asagi is the one that keeps going –de gozaru and is samurai. I may have mixed this up a while ago, but only in the TL notes I think. Also when you see the words old man, it's usually Jeff talking.

After Ryouma left, the onlookers all started talking.

"Old man, can't you stop them?'

"If I could I would have already had! They've already agreed to duel so there's nothing we can do anymore!"

"If you leave them alone like that the members of the Fang of Orbtem will be in danger –de gozaru."

Syria-san tilted her head.

"Eh, the Fang of Orbtem is? Not Ryouma-kun?"

Wogan nodded.

"Umu, most likely even if the Fang of Orbtem uses all their members they won't be able to stop Ryouma."

"It looks like Sacchi has pissed him off, nya."

Pondering, Jeff san said, "He probably feels some sort of gratitude to the nobles that Sacchi was talking about.

Old man, do you know something?"

"Whether I know something or not, the ones who put up the request for today is them, the Ducal Household of Jamil."

At that the group couldn't help but exclaim in unison.

"What!?"

"The Duke!? Isn't that like a super big thing!?"

"Why is something like that involved!?'

"Like I'd know! Even I was surprised. That guy actually came over with the entire household of the duke to register, you know?"

Jeff shook his head.

“I don’t understand that guy…”

Pondering, Syria-san asked, “Ryouma-kun isn’t a noble, right?”

“I’ve never heard of the Takebayashi Family so he most likely isn’t. And besides, if he were a noble then there’s no way he would have taken the job to clean the latrine pits -de aru.”

Mizelia-san sighed.

“Ryouma-kun is quite the mysterious child, huh? In a lot of ways.”

Nodding, Syria-san said, “He also has a lot of high level and difficult skills at his age.”

“Holding several resistance skills, and that story about him being an orphan, it would appear that he has suffered quite a lot –de gozaru.”

Jeff-san nodded.

“There’s no mistaking that. Lv7 Disease Resist and Sleep Resist, isn’t something you get by living normally.”

“Everyone, rather than inquiring about Ryouma’s past, right now we need to find out how to put a stop to this mess –de gozaru.”

Wogan sighing said, “Even if you tell me that… fortunately I’ll be the referee again. So I’ll stop it when things get bad, then under the pretense of following the order of the referee, you guys will interfere and stop them. Asagi and Jeff, you two should be able to stop Ryouma... but in the worst case I’ll go as well.”

“Understood –de gozaru.”

“Guess we’ll have to go with that.”

Mizelia-san nodded.

“Understood! By the way, Ryouma-kun said that he’d bring his slave monsters but…”

As if he realized something, Jeff asked, “By monsters, he means those slimes, right? And when he mentioned that he’d bring them back with him… he wouldn’t actually go all the way back to the town, would he?”

Shaking his head, Wogan replied, “It would be great if he just ran away like that but… That guy is unusually earnest so I doubt he’d run. He also doesn’t have any reason to run.”

“Ah, he came back nya!”

Ryouma came back with his slave monsters following him from behind. Seeing that, the Fang of Orbtem’s

members that were insulting Ryouma, became even more enraged.

“Hey, that guy brought slimes!”

“Slimes? The asshole is treating us like idiots!”

“Wait a minute… isn’t there a bit too many?”

The slimes were bouncing behind Ryouma in a straight line, but that line was extending continuously, seemingly having no end.

“Sorry, my bad. Slimes are really quite slow so… And then, there’s also a lot of them so I figured that if I brought them all at the same time it would be quite shocking… so instead I made them line up behind me. We could have come faster if I didn’t make them line up but…”

“Whatever, let’s just start this fucking duel! Brat!!”

Because Sacchi yelled that, Ryouma ordered the slimes to break formation and to come as soon as possible.

Doing so, a great number of slimes gathered.

“Eh? Wai–, kyaa!?”

“So many!”

“How many are there!?”

After they had all gathered, Ryouma spoke.

“I made you wait, these are my slave monsters. 4310 slimes in total.”

“That’s too many!”

Sacchi’s yell spoke not only for himself but for everyone who saw that scene.

“Seeing all the slimes gathered in a bright place like this, it certainly is an amazing sight, -de aru.”

“This is the first time that this one has seen so many slimes –de gozaru.”

Syria-san glanced at the Fang of Orbtem’s members.

“Looks like some of them have already withdrawn.”

Sacchi was shocked at the number of slimes that came out but he still

yelled to start the duel. And so the two of them went to their starting positions, and at Wogan's sign, the duel began. However, because of the great number of slimes, the members of the Fang of Orbtem were confused. Seeing that, Sacchi jeered at them.

"You fucking idiots! Why the fuck are you being scared just because there's a lot slimes!? Kill them all!"

At those words, around ten men stepped forward. Within that ten, one man tried to cut one of the nearby slimes.

"Ha! Che! Next… shit!"

"What are you doing? You suck!! You still call yourself a D Rank with that!?"

Dodging and dodging, the Slime continued to dodge the man's sword. That man being completely unable to beat that slime, was joined by another man, but…

"Arrgh! What is this slime!?"

"It moves so fucking quick while it dodges!"

"Why can a slime dodge like this!?"

"Even if I graze it, I just can't hit the nucleus…"

The 10 D ranked adventurers swung their swords many times, but they couldn't kill even a single slime. Seeing that, the onlookers were left speechless.

Looking at that scene, Mizelia-san praised, "Unexpectedly, those slimes can move pretty darn well."

"Yeah, those slimes are unusually strong."

"Umu. Completely seeing through their opponents attacks, they dodge while taking only a paper thin space – de gozaru."

"I heard that amongst the slave magic users, there were some people that strengthened their slave monsters by training them. Looks like, Ryouma's slimes have received some sort of training -de aru."

"It's not the kind of movement you'd expect from a slime, nya."

Seeing that the slimes couldn't be hit at all, they looked at it admiringly. Hearing that, Sacchi yelled jeers even harder.

"How long have you fuckers been adventurers!? Stop messing around and get rid of those slimes!!"

And so it became a rough melee between the 33 adventurers and the 4310 slimes… or so it should have been.

“Uwaah!? What is this!”

“I can’t move! Help me!”

While rushing in to attack, the Sticky Slime spit out its Strong Sticky Liquid, tripping seven of the men and turning them over. Five other men tried to save them, but the liquid got stuck to them too. Having been entangled, all 12 of them where stuck on the ground. Seeing that, the other adventurers stopped moving.

“It’s a high class race! Don’t save the people that have fallen over! You’ll get stuck too!”

“Aah!! What is this!?”

“Now what!?”

“The, the spear…”

“What about the spear!”

“My spear is melting!”

“It’s acid slime! There are acid slimes mixed in with those!”

“What!?”

“Be careful! Your weapon will be melted!”

“This isn’t funny! My sword was expensive, you know!?”

“Hey! Your armor is being melted!!”

“Che! Zeno, Kotor… what’s wrong Kotor!? Get a hold of yourself!”

“Be… care….ful… the...re….are….ev…en….poi…..son…..sli…mes…”

“Ko, Kotor-san has been done in!?”

“Seriously?... What’s wrong with these slimes!!?”

At the unexpected fierce attack of the slimes, the members of the Fang of Orbtem were defeated one after another.

Seeing that one-sided fight, the onlookers were stunned.

“How frightening…”

“It gets really troublesome when you gather these many high class slimes… One at a time can be disposed of easily, but…”

“Unless you wipe them all out with magic, this is impossible.”

“Because the slimes’ movements are good, it’s become even more difficult to kill them –de gozaru. The members of the Fang of Orbtem needs to attack the nucleus. In contrast to that, all the slimes need to do is spit out poison and acid without needing to actually target something so precise, while the members of the Fang of Orbtem, because they need to get close to attack, are basically targets that keep coming to get hit. If they throw up the acid and the poison they've dodged, it's also easy for it to hit their allies or their armors. On top of that, because of the number of slimes there are they won’t be able to dodge –de gozaru.”

“As a magician, it’s still fine for me, but it’s extremely difficult for warriors. However, even for a magician, if one were to be attacked by this many slimes, there’s a possibility of eventually being grabbed. I will definitely not make an enemy out of Ryouma –de aru.”

Jeff showed a hint of disdain.

“That bastard, Sacchi. It became like this because he let his guard down because they were slimes.”

“And on top of that, they’re also really slow at dealing with them, nya.”

The onlookers now all believe that the Fang of Orbtem’s defeat has already been decided. And opinions about it have been coming out here and there. As for the leader, Sacchi. His comrades have all fallen, and the only thing he can do now is to keep yelling.

“Son of a bitch! Why are we, by that brat!? Why, by something like a slime!? This is dirty you brat!”

“The one who said to use my slave monsters was you, right? I did tell you that I didn’t mind fighting alone.”

“Arrgh… then, you, using poison is unfair!!”

“Is that something you should be saying!!!!?”

Right after Ryouma’s thundering roar against the Sacchi who was blind to his own shortcomings, more members of the Fang of Orbtem fell, and for a moment the battle stopped. Because of that what Ryouma had just said echoed.

“Using poison is unfair? You also used poison, right? Then we’re the same. You don’t have the right to say it’s unfair or to call me a coward. At the very least I don’t want to be told that by someone like you.”

“Wh, what are you talking about!?”

“Don’t play the fool… Raypin-san!”

“What is it –de aru?”

“Please use Identify on the contents of this wine.”

Saying that, Ryouma threw the wine Sacchi had thrown him before to Raypin. After that, Raypin who had used Identify on the bottle, yelled.

“This wine is poisoned!!”

At those words, the entire area broke into an uproar. Wogan stopped the duel, went over to Sacchi, and said this.

“The duel is being postponed! Sacchi, I would like to hear an explanation from you.”

“Wait, I didn’t do something like putting poison in the wine! That kid put it in the bottle himself and is trying to fuck me over! Didn’t he add the poison when he called the slimes a while ago? As proof of that, that kid is perfectly ok, isn’t he!? He drank the wine, so isn’t it weird that he’s perfectly ok!?”

“Not really –de aru. This poison will only lightly paralyze the limbs. It will be problematic to hold one’s weapons, but just standing alone shouldn’t be a problem. –de aru.”

“Ryouma, are you paralyzed?”

“I have the Poison Resist Skill, so no. If I didn’t have the poison resist, then I wouldn’t have drank it to begin with.”

“Don’t lie! Even if you had 1 or 2 levels of poison resist, this isn’t the kind of poison that you could…”

At this time Sacchi who has been enraged until now has become shocked and impatient upon finding out that Ryouma knew about the poison. And upon knowing that Ryouma drank the wine while knowing about the poison in it, he became even more enraged. Having been taken over by his emotions, he couldn’t help but explode at Ryouma.

“… Certainly, just as Sacchi has mentioned, this is not the kind of poison that you could stop with a level or two of poison resist –de aru.”

Wogan shook his head and stared hard at Sacchi.

“Sacchi, you did say that you didn’t know about the poison in this wine, right? You said the one who put the poison in this was Ryouma. Then, how come you know the strength of the poison mixed in with this? Hahhhh?”

“Gugugu…

“Give it up, Sacchi.”

“If you’d like, should I drink what’s left of that wine in front you? I’ll do it just like a while ago.”

“Certainly, with that you’ll definitely be able to provide proof that you did drink it, but… is that alright –de aru?”

“There’s won’t be any problem because my poison resist level is 7. Most poison won’t work on me.”

At those words, the people around started to murmur.

“Ryouma, how have you been living up till now? Level 7 poison resist is definitely not something you can get by living normally –de aru.”

“Ahh, I became a target of gambling, you see? So it was probably because of that, that it rose.”

“Gambling?”

“I’m an orphan who was taken in by my grandparents who lived in a village that was extremely cruel to outsiders.

My grandparents raised me up, but because I’m an outsider the villagers hated me. And so they made me drink things like dirty water and poison. They then made me the target of their gambling and gambled as to whether or not I’d end up suffering because of the poison or because of a disease.”

Ryouma smoothly mixed the memories of his past life with the settings that the gods had set up for him. And after having said that, the people around him looked at him with eyes of pity.

“I asked you something bad. My apologies –de aru.”

“Please don’t mind, it’s already something of the past. Ah, and guild master please use this as evidence for the time being.”

As he said that, Ryouma showed the poison resist Lv7 on his status board.

“I’ve confirmed it. You certainly have poison resist Lv7. With this, unless it’s a really powerful medicine, then it won’t take effect on you. Now then, this duel, because of Sacchi’s foul play! This duel goes to Ryouma!!”

At Wogan’s decision, the people around shouted cheers and showered Ryouma with praises. At the same time they threw jeers at Sacchi and the

Fang of Orbtem. After that, Sacchi and the Fang of Orbtem's members, were taken to the guild by a number of adventurers and guild employees. Glancing at that, the onlookers finished their lunch break and went back to subjugate the monsters.

However at that time, Sacchi, who was unable to accept the result of the duel, did something reckless. We thought Sacchi would obediently allow himself to be taken, but he went against that expectation and knocked the

adventurer, who was taking him to the guild. He then stole that adventurer's one-handed axe and jumped at Ryouma from behind.

"Die brat!!!"

However that was also meaningless to Ryouma. Ryouma, without even turning to look at Sacchi, took a step back, and while dodging Sacchi's stolen axe, bent his back backwards and grabbed Sacchi's Adam's apple with the thumb and index finger of his left hand.

"Awk!? Gak! Gah……"

At that attack, Sacchi unintentionally stepped back and coughed violently. During that time, Ryouma turned and stared at Sacchi.

At the same time, Sacchi glared at Ryouma again and came slashing with his axe diagonally down. Ryouma

closed the gap between himself and Sacchi, and with his left arm he hit Sacchi's right hand which held the axe, and averted the attack.

And then with Sacchi having swung the axe and extended his arms, Ryouma entangled his own right arm

underneath the other side of the elbow of Sacchi's right arm and like that kicked the back of Sacchi's right knee.

Having made Sacchi kneel, he hardened the arm he had taken Sacchi's back with. At that, Sacchi dropped the axe he was holding.

After tightening his arm, Ryouma hit the back of Sacchi's head with a karate chop from his left, grabbed Sacchi's collar, pulled him behind, bent him backwards, then putting his arm around Sacchi's neck, he strangled him and took away his consciousness.

Because of Ryouma, Sacchi was quickly arrested, preventing things from escalating. However, seeing Ryouma easily subdue Sacchi, who is a C Rank adventurer, the people around couldn't help but be shocked.

Ryouma handed Sacchi over to the adventurers responsible for taking him to the guild. And then went back to Jeff and the others, only, the face he

had was clearly not happy.

Jeff-san seeing that expression.

“Something wrong, Ryouma?”

“Is the poison taking effect, nya?”

“No, there’s no problem with the poison. It’s just that… in the past, I wasn’t able to lash out. And so, while I thought of that, I thought of lashing out this time… but now that I’ve tried it, it doesn’t really make me feel that much better.”

Until the incident had ended, Ryouma had been remembering something painful. But, hearing Ryouma’s words just now, the expression of Jeff and the others who were there, softened. Seeing that, Ryouma was a little bewildered.

“What is it?”

“It’s nothing.”

“We were just a little worried –de gozaru. Ryouma already possess a suitable amount of strength. If today’s incident caused Ryouma to become drunk on violence, then it would be quite bad for Ryouma, himself, as well as his surroundings. –de gozaru. But it looks like there’s no need to worry about that. –de gozaru.”

Mizelia-san nodded.

“Among the adventurers that raised their rank, there are definitely those that become arrogant and become violent… The members of the Fang of Orbtem, especially Sacchi, are that kind of adventurer.”

“In the past, he was also a serious adventurer… still, he was never the type who would poison someone in a duel.

But then he rose up in the ranks, got drunk in power, and now he’s nothing but a shadow of his former self.”

Glancing at Ryouma, Wogan said, “It’s good that you’re not that kind of person. It was a little flashy, but something like this is a normal occurrence for us adventurers. Also, you don’t have to worry about those guys, since they only have themselves to blame. As for Sacchi’s comrades that haven’t done that much wrong, we’ll let them off with a light warning and punishment. Of course, provided that they’re really innocent, right?”

After talking for a bit, Ryouma and the rest went back to subjugating monsters.

Chapter 28

TL Note: Remember, suit is their currency.

~Side Ryouma~

After the job, I was called over by the guild master. Apparently I have the rights to the money and equipment of the members of the Fang of Orbtem.

I got a bag and the Tear of Keromi that I gave to Sacchi. Inside the bag were all the money of the members of the Fang of Orbtem, totaling to 140,800 suits. As for the equipment, it's worthless so it'll all be sold. The money, will of course, be kept.

Unfortunately though, I was told by the guild master not to expect much from selling the equipment. The

equipment I got from the Fang of Orbtem definitely used to be good, but because of the acid of the acid slime, many of it has been damaged. Some of the obvious ones were the melted spear that had no spearhead left, and the armor whose leather strap and metal fixings have become brittle, making it impossible to wear.

One exception would be Sacchi's axe. Because Sacchi was leading, he wasn't able to use it, leaving it

undamaged. It's also apparently been enchanted with harden, make it a magic weapon. Like this, it should sell for a bit of price.

After that, Ryouma went home after also receiving the gathered corpses of the magical beasts.

When Ryouma rode the stagecoach, a large number of people showered him with praises. And now, he's leisurely enjoying the quiet ride.

During that time he remembered what had happened again today.

It's been awhile since I've let loose… I wonder when I got mad last was… most likely it was when my boss insulted my deceased mother. So the last time I acted violently was before I retired from that company…

As the people around me saw me thinking about what had happened today, they told me not to mind it. They were the ones were wrong. You're still a kid, so it can't be helped.

But am I kid? Wrong. Even if my body is that of a kid's, I'm already a 42 year old grown man. I'm an adult that should be capable of reason.

Reason, do I have that?... No. Today I gave into my emotions and flew off the handle. Although I may not be completely out of mind, it still wouldn't be strange for me to go on a rampage given the chance. Today I got provoked by the first six, and then because of Sacchi's words, I was really just a little bit off of completely losing all sense of reason.

Because of the poison, I was able to cool my head a bit. And then, after that because I brought out my slimes from the Dimension Home, I was able to keep my distance and calm myself down. However, if I hadn't let the slimes fight and instead fought by myself. I would probably have killed all of them. When Sacchi came at me the last time, I seriously wanted to strangle him to death.

Will I kill when I'm not liked? Will I kill whenever someone picks a fight with me? …if so, then how would I be any different from the Fang of Orbtem?

Somehow someway I was able to keep myself, but saying something like "I wanted to kill Sacchi by impulse" is unacceptable. Right now, my abilities are more than enough. The only problem left is… my mind.

Now that I think about it, during my school days, did I really try to hold back? At that time there was already a difference in power between myself and my opponent. Would it have been possible to deal with them without hurting them? While I say that did my best at holding back, isn't there also a part of me saying that I wanted to hurt them?

…I can't refute that.

Now that I think about it… since I've come into this world, nothing has changed. I isolated myself in the forest, and avoided interacting with other people because I hated it. And then just like that, I kept living by myself in the forest.

And then, at a time like that, I met Rheinhart-san and the others.

If I hadn't met them, I would have put off leaving the forest, and in the end I probably wouldn't have been able to leave it. Since I've met them, I've troubled them a lot. They provided for my lodging and my food. They

welcomed me warmly… and, slowly, I started relying on them.

Thinking back on the things that have happened since I've come here. Running from the things I don't like, having no hardships, and being spoiled by the duke and playing around……..is no good. If I

keep going like this, I'll end up being worthless.

I'm grateful to the household of the duke, but I'm going to try leaving them. I need to retrain myself. Continuing to rely on the duke like this is also no good… I need to become independent.

Until now I've always been thinking on how I can show them my gratitude. But after everything they've done for me, to say I'm going to pay that back, it's really quite shameless.

I kept thinking about that until I got to the town, then I made up my mind. When I got back to the lodging, I headed to where the four members of the Jamil Household were.

I was greeted by Araune-san, and then brought to the table where the four members of the Jamil Household were.

"Welcome home, Ryouma-san."

"Welcome home."

"Welcome home. Looks like today got a bit rough, huh?"

"It's not good to push yourself too hard."

Looks like they already know about today.

"Everyone, thank you very much. This is quite sudden, but there's something I'd like to talk about."

The words I spoke after giving my thanks, immediately caused the four people's faces to stiffen.

"What's wrong?"

"What is it all of the sudden, Ryouma-san?"

The one who asked first with a serious expression was Rheinhart-san. And the one who said the next line with an uneasy expression was Elia.

"I've decided what I should do now from here on. I've been greatly taken care of by everyone but… I'm leaving because I want to become independent."

The moment I said that, Elia stood from her seat and pressed me for answers. The other three remained seated without saying anything.

"What do you mean by that!?"

"I thought that if I were to keep going like this, being taken care of by everyone, I'll end up becoming some no good guy. I've been spoiled

much by everyone in these past few weeks, and I accepted that like it was perfectly normal. On top of that, today I lost control of myself, and giving in to my emotions I acted violently. It may be just me who's saying this, but I believe I'm quite strong compared to other people. Because of that, if I were to lose control of myself and act violently, a lot of people could get hurt. That's why I intend to become independent and retrain myself."

"That… can't we go together?"

"If we're together, then I believe I'll end up being spoiled. That's why I'd like to take some distance for a bit."

At that, the Madam asked.

"A bit, so in other words it's not like we won't meet again right?"

"Yes. I'm not keeping distance because of something like hate. That's why if it's alright, I'd like to meet again after I've retrained myself."

At those words, the Madam exclaimed.

"Of course! Although really it would be fine to keep being spoiled. Ryouma-kun, you're still only 11 years old, you're at an age where it's not strange at all for you to be living with your parents. Ryouma-kun, we'll welcome you whenever you want!"

"Mother!? You're not going to stop Ryouma-san!?"

"Elia, it's not like we'll never meet Ryouma-kun again. Elia, you'll be going to school, and as for Ryouma, he too will be going to study on his own. Although, honestly speaking, I don't believe there's any need. Rather, I believe what's important for Ryouma right now, is for Ryouma to be spoiled."

Seeing the Madam start changing the flow of the conversation. Rheinhart-san interjected.

"Hey, hey, Elize. Haven't we already made our decision on this?"

"I know. That's why I'm not objecting. I'm just giving my opinion, that's all."

Decided? What is?

"Umm… what do you mean by 'decided'?"

The ones who answered that question were Rheinbach-sama and Sebasu-san, respectively.

"Actually, we've already expected Ryouma-kun to say something like that

since we've arrived at this town. After all, even though I'm like this I've already lived for a quite some time. Colleagues, subordinates, enemies, there are all sorts, but I've seen kids like you plenty of times."

"Ryouma-sama may have felt that he was being spoiled, but we thought no such thing. It's true, that until now the food and the lodging have been provided for by the duke, but that's all there is to it. Ryouma-sama did not make any requests, registered into the guild, and continued to work earnestly. Ryouma-sama is the kind of person that will do his best even without being told to. So we believed that the day would come when Ryouma-sama would bring up something like this. Of course, it was far earlier than we had expected."

Rheinbach-sama nodded.

"We won't stop you, but you're not allowed to overdo it. In the past I had a subordinate that was like you. He was quite talented at the sword, and so he eagerly trained himself in its ways. He did nothing but train under harsh conditions, and in the end his body broke and he became unable to wield it. Children like you are able to do their best by themselves, but in exchange they don't know how to pace themselves. For some reason, these types keep going on until they destroy their body, and in the end before they're able to get anything done, they end up broken. People like that are too serious and when they're not able to reach their goals, they persecute themselves.

And then there are also those who put their efforts in the wrong places so be careful."

Sebasu-san continued.

"Other than resting there's also asking other people for help and relying on them. Please treasure the fact that others can also help you. Ryouma-sama take on everything by himself a bit too much. Just doing what one is capable of by themselves like what the Ojousama had done in the house in the Forest of Gana, isn't only limited to the Ojousama. I believe this also applies to Ryouma-sama."

Rheinhart-san heaved a sigh.

"Seeing you, sometimes reminds me of a good friend I had. Your personality is completely the opposite though.

You're serious, whereas he's not. He would normally throw all the annoying things to his subordinates or to other people while he'd slip out from his work. That much is a bit troubling, but I think that's something that could be important to you. Just like what Sebasu and my dad told you, you should rest properly and rely on others. That kind of stuff isn't

bad, you know? My good friend for example, even though he does things like that, he's doing pretty well."

……. I didn't notice it at all. To think that they were actually thinking about me to this extent. I am truly grateful. Now that I realize it, unconsciously, I suddenly started to shed tears.

"Thank you……very much."

Rheinhart-san smiled.

"It's fine. In exchange, I want you to make several promises. First of all, it's alright if you separate from us for a bit, but you must come back. This world is dangerous, and all the more so when you're an adventurer. I think Ryouma also understands this, but please come back to us without dying. It's also fine if you come frequently."

Rheinbach-sama nodded.

"Second, you have to continuously send us letters. And if anything happens, report it to us, so we can warn you if anything's amiss."

"Otherwise please let me personally visit Ryouma-sama with my space magic."

Suggested Sebasu-san as the Madam began to vehemently push the third promise.

"And third, if something happens I want you to rely on us without holding anything back! You absolutely have to!

Ryouma-kun, your magic, knowledge, and fighting abilities are already more than enough. You're already more than good enough to be employed by us, so if anything were to happen you can also come work for us."

I don't know what I should say anymore… all I can really say now is that I'm grateful. At times like these it's really unfortunate that my vocabulary is so limited.

"Ryouma-san."

Hearing that voice, I looked at Elia, who had come to my side.

Then while staring straight at me, Elia said, "I'm a little disappointed, but… if that's what Ryouma-san has decided then I'll respect that… however!"

And then Elia pointed her finger at me and then declared, "I have a condition!"

"…condition?"

"On top of the conditions my father, my grandfather, and mother had given. I'm going to give one more

condition. Our reunion will be after 3 years, and then after 6 years."

"After 3 years and then after 6 years?"

"I believe I've said this to Ryouma-san before, but I'll be going to the school in the imperial capital this year to study. In that school, the graduation is after six years. Halfway through that, I'll be given a long holiday. So at that time, let's meet again. Until that time, I'll do my best by myself in studying and practicing my magic."

(TL Note: The meet used by Elia when she says, "Let's meet again." Uses 逢う and not 会う . Meaning it is an emotional meeting. The kind of meeting where you're going, "My love, my love! Where art thou? Thou hast left mine chest cold. And mine heart in tatters. Ah! If I could fly I would and embrace thee now! Ah I want to meet thee!"… ♫ well something like that. Basically, it's emotional whereas the other is just routine.)

I see, so it's like that.

"I got it."

"Good. I won't forgive you if you forget because you got too caught up with something."

As she said that she glared at me hard. Certainly, I do have the tendency to lose track of time when I'm fussing over something.

"I'll do my best not to forget."

"At a time like this you should say that you won't forget! Seriously…"

Said Elia with an amazed voice. At that, Rheinhart-san asked me while laughing.

"Hahaha, well I think it's going to be fine. By the way, have you decided what you're going to be doing from now on?"

"I have my slimes, so I thought I'd try living around this town. And also I can live in this town as an adventurer, and while keeping my relationship with others I'll be able to practice my Alchemy."

"I see… then in that case can I ask you to care of something for me?'

"What is it? If it's something I can do, then by all means."

"I want you to take care of the abandoned mine you're clearing out right

now. We had only left it alone for a year and yet it's already been infested by magical beasts and has even had a nest created within it…

It's not good for there to be a nest of magical beasts not that far away from the town. That's why I want the abandoned mine to be cleared out from time to time. If it's not possible alone, then I'd like for you to post in the guild.

I've thought of blocking the entrance with earth magic or something, but then the cave mantises could just use their scythes to dig and make a nest anyway so there's no meaning to that."

"If it's something like that then I'll accept it."

"Thanks. As thanks, you can use that mine as you wish. If it's over there, then even if you train and practice your magic it won't be a problem."

"That's…"

Isn't that place perfect for me?! There's space for me to make a house, it's at a good distance away from where the people are, it's doesn't attract people so it'll be good for my training, and I can also let the slimes muck around freely and on top of that I can make ingots as I please. There's more to it for me than money, but…

"If you treat me this well, then I'll end up being spoiled again…"

"I'm not spoiling you. This is a proper deal. Within the magical beasts, there are even more dangerous races. If those were to make nest not far away from the town, you understand what will happen once they multiply, right?"

"I understand that, but to allow me to do as I please with that mine…"

At that time, Rheinhart-san stopped me from talking with his hand, and with a serious face said, "It's not strange to hire someone to take care of an abandoned mine. Normally the public office will send someone to check its condition and employ people, but… apparently this town's public office doesn't have that kind of management.

That's why I'm employing someone right now who has the ability and is someone that I can trust. Technically speaking giving a different payment is a given, but we are actually able to settle that issue by just allowing you to do as you please with this mine that no longer holds any value to us or to the town. We are also able to decrease the work load, and there's also no expenses for us."

…Certainly, that may be true. Putting it that way, even I can understand. While I think that they're spoiling me with their good intentions, it also

makes me feel bad to just flat out reject them…

Realizing that I was thinking about such things, Rheinhart-san smiled wryly as he said, "Oh boy, looks like you really are too serious… you don't' have to think so much over something so trivial. Alright, let's do it this way.

Make some ingots over there, and then from that we'll make some profit. Oh, and please don't push yourself too hard making ingots."

"I understand, I'll do my best!"

Ok, I'll set the quota for every month and then sell it whole sale to Serge-san every month. I have to be able do at least this much, otherwise it just wouldn't be right.

"No, there's no need for you to be that fired up…"

Seeing Ryouma like that the madam smiled.

"Also, while you're here, come stay with us in the lodging."

"Umm, that's…"

"No. Even though I thought we would finally be able to travel together. Really, Ryouma-kun, you made up your mind too fast. That's why you absolutely have to stay here!"

Rheinbach-sama continued.

"It's only for around 1 or 2 months. Even if you retrain yourself after that time period, it still won't be too late.

This should be fine even for you, right?"

…If I don't reject this I'll end up being spoiled again.

"You won't be spoiled, Ryouma-sama."

Sebasu-san read my mind!?

"Ryouma-kun. It came out on your face, you know? Just like a while ago."

"It's a face that's really easy to understand."

Did I really make that kind of face?

The madam puffed up and with a really strong tone said, "In any case! Ryouma-kun, while we're here in this town you're going to be staying with us! Ok?"

"But…"

“Ok?”

“But…”

“It’s alright right!? Good!”

Doesn’t look like the madam will agree to anything else except a yes… it can’t be helped… or rather… was I always this weak-willed? Really, I’m extremely grateful but…

“I understand, then until everyone leaves the town, please take care of me.”

The madam grinned as she nodded.

“Right! That’s good~”

Well this kind of goodwill is something precious, so in the end I wasn’t able to reject.

After that, I gave my thanks one more time, then went back to my room. Having gone back to my room, before going to sleep, I thought back to what the others said. As I did so, tears naturally flooded my eyes.

I truly cannot express the gratitude I feel to those people…

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